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Japan

Miyazawa: Tokyo 'Recycling' Trade Surplus

OW1202010993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0058 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Washington, Feb. 11 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told President Bill Clinton on Thursday that Japan plans to send part of its trade surplus overseas through a funds "recycling" program for the developing world.

Japanese officials said Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe conveyed Miyazawa's message in a meeting with the U.S. President at the White House on Thursday. Miyazawa told Clinton that Japan "is in the process of considering measures to recycle funds to other parts of the world, to developing countries," Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sadaaki Numata said.

Numata gave no other details about the plan, which Tokyo is proposing apparently as part of Japan's effort to offset the massive flow of dollars to Japan as a result of the huge surplus it has piled up in foreign trade. The Japanese Finance Ministry reported last week that Japan's trade surplus with the rest of the world soared 29 percent in 1992 to a record 132 billion dollars.

Miyazawa also pledged in his message to Clinton to expand domestic demand and promote structural adjustment and market-opening efforts in a bid to scale back the trade surplus, Numata said.

Clinton made no response to Miyazawa's proposals, but told Watanabe the administration is gravely concerned about the surplus, Japanese officials said.

Watanabe Talks With Clinton, Gore During Visit

Urged To Cut Trade Surplus

OW1102235493 Tokyo KYODO in English 2325 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Report by Antonio Kamiya]

[Text] Washington, Feb. 11 KYODO—President Bill Clinton met with Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe on Thursday and urged Japan to slash its mounting trade surplus with the United States by opening its markets to U.S. goods and services. Speaking to reporters at the end of a 35-minute meeting at the White House, Clinton said he told Watanabe that "we had to bring the trade deficit down, and that I would be working with him on it, very firmly."

Clinton also vowed to take personal charge in removing obstacles to trade with Japan. "That is my job," he said.

Trade issues took center stage in the first high-level contact between the two allies since the advent of the Clinton administration and as Japan's trade surplus with the U.S. once again shows signs of an upswing.

The White House had originally set aside 10 minutes for the meeting between Clinton and Watanabe at the Oval Office, but eventually it lasted more than three times as long.

Speaking to reporters and photographers ushered in for a "photo opportunity" of the meeting, Clinton opened his remarks by saying he had just had "a very serious trade talk" with Watanabe, but noted they were parting as friends despite not seeing eye to eye on some trade issues.

"It was a good first meeting," Clinton said.

"I think we'll be friends, and we'll have a few disagreements, and a lot of agreements."

Clinton did not spell out the differences his administration has with Tokyo, but Japanese officials cited one specific issue—the "Super 301" trade law.

The Super 301 provision—now under consideration by Congress—would allow the U.S. to take unilateral retaliation against foreign countries accused of unfair trade practices.

Watanabe told Clinton that Japan believes Super 301 "is not a good approach" in resolving trade disputes, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sadaaki Numata said.

Clinton, who supports a revival of the legislation, dismissed the Japanese concern, arguing U.S. trading partners can avert Super 301 action by opening their markets.

Enforcement of the provision "is related to the efforts on the part of our trading partners," Clinton was quoted as telling Watanabe.

Clinton told reporters Watanabe had raised concern the U.S. might turn protectionist under his administration, and he agreed that should not happen.

The President said he "very much" wants to meet with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa in the near future to underscore the importance he attaches to the ties with Japan.

"The Japanese-American relationship is very important, not only to Japan and to America, but to the rest of the world," he said.

Japanese officials said no date has been set for a summit between the two leaders.

Elaborating on the conversation between Clinton and Watanabe, Japanese officials said the President also expressed his commitment to bring a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of global trade talks.

Watanabe told Clinton that Japan is encouraged by the statements the President has made on the necessity to work with Japan on broad issues. "It is Japan's intention to work together with the United States in important areas of policy," Watanabe reportedly told Clinton, affirming that Tokyo is confident to resolve bilateral issues under the framework of the U.S.-Japanese security pact.

Watanabe also relayed what he said was an oral message from Miyazawa in which the Japanese premier said Tokyo is considering "recycling" its trade surplus to other parts of the world. Miyazawa also promised to spur the domestic economy, bring about structural changes, and implement market-opening measures, Japanese officials said.

Apart from trade, Clinton and Watanabe also touched on a broad range of other topics, including the situation in Russia, global environmental concerns, and the possibility of putting AIDS on the agenda of the summit of seven economic powers in Tokyo in July.

Watanabe, who flew in from Tokyo earlier Thursday on a three-day visit, met separately with Vice President Al Gore during his first day in Washington.

Watanabe is slated to meet separately with Defense Secretary Les Aspin and Secretary of State Warren Christopher on Friday. Japanese officials said they expect Watanabe to discuss more specific foreign policy and trade issues in his meeting with Christopher, who will be joined by U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor and Tony Lake, presidential national security adviser.

AIDS on Tokyo Summit Agenda

OW1202024493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0219 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Washington, Feb. 11 KYODO—President Bill Clinton and Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe agreed Thursday that AIDS is a major international problem that should be on the agenda for Tokyo summit in July.

The AIDS issue came up during bilateral talks with Clinton. Watanabe said the group of seven major industrial nations must cooperate in coping with the disease.

Clinton agreed to make AIDS a priority during his administration over the next four years, and said the disease must be confronted in concert by the United States and Japan.

It would be the first time that AIDS went on the agenda at the summit of leaders from the world's leading industrial democracies.

Agrees To Cooperate on Environment

OW1202023293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0202 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Washington, Feb. 11 KYODO—U.S. Vice President Al Gore urged Japan on Thursday to cooperate in bringing a successful conclusion to the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, Japanese officials said. Gore made the call in a meeting with visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe at the White House, the officials said.

The Vice President also called on Japan to slash its mounting trade surplus with the United States and to open its market and expand domestic demand, they said.

Watanabe said Japan's trade surplus with the U.S. is increasing because imports to Japan have decreased due to its sluggish economy, according to the officials.

Tokyo will do its utmost to correct the situation, he said, adding the best way to do so is expand domestic demand.

"Expanding domestic demand will be Japan's contribution to the world," Watanabe was quoted as saying.

Watanabe and Gore agreed to cooperate on environmental issues and set up a Japan-U.S. environmental conference in which high-level officials could discuss global environmental problems, the officials said.

The Japanese foreign minister arrived in Washington earlier Thursday for a three-day visit.

Miyazawa Expresses Hope for Clinton Meeting

OW1202043893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0430 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Friday he hopes to meet U.S. President Bill Clinton as early as possible, but did not give any specific timing for a visit to Washington.

Miyazawa made the remark to reporters at his office when asked for comment on Clinton's request for Japan to open its markets to U.S. goods and services and slash its mounting trade surplus.

Clinton made the request in a meeting Thursday in Washington with Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe.

Government sources said Miyazawa will be busy with Diet business and may be unable to go to Washington until late April.

Finance Minister Leaves for Washington 12 Feb

OW1202041793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0401 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Narita, Chiba Pref., Feb. 12 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi left Narita Airport Friday for talks with U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen in Washington.

The talks, their first, are scheduled to take place at 3 P.M. Friday Washington time (5 A.M. Saturday Japan time).

Hayashi is expected to return home Sunday evening.

Kono: Candid Discussions Necessary With U.S.

OW1202023493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0216 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said Friday that candid discussions with the United States would pave the way for smooth relations between the world's two largest economic powers.

Kono told reporters Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe held "extremely frank" discussions with U.S. President Bill Clinton at the White House on Thursday in the first high-level meeting with the new administration. "Japan-U.S. relations will proceed smoothly if Japan makes various frank proposals and statements," Kono said.

In the 35-minute meeting, Watanabe expressed opposition to the "Super 301" trade law, now before Congress, which would allow the U.S. to retaliate against foreign trading partners. Clinton called on Japan to reduce its gaping trade surplus with the U.S. by opening its markets wider.

Mori Suggests Import Increase To Trim Surplus

OW1202044593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0437 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—International Trade and Industry Minister [MITI] Yoshiro Mori suggested Friday the government should try to boost imports in order to trim the ballooning trade surplus.

Speaking at a press conference after a regular cabinet meeting, Mori said it is true the surplus with the U.S. is an obstacle to be hurdled.

Mori was responding to a comment by U.S. President Bill Clinton in a meeting Thursday with Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe.

In the meeting at the White House, Clinton urged Japan to curb its trade surplus and further liberalize markets for imports.

Mori also said Clinton's remark hints that Japan should take the issue more seriously.

He said the U.S. President apparently believes top priority should be placed on Japan-U.S. relations and trade liberalization is more important than protectionism.

Clinton's remark might have come out in favor of U.S. domestic industries, Mori said.

Tokyo Ignores EC Spring Summit Suggestions

OW1202034693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0337 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Japan on Friday brushed aside suggestions by the European Community (EC) to move up the schedule of the summit meeting of seven industrialized nations, government sources said Friday.

The EC has suggested Japan to change the July 7-9 summit schedule and hold it in the spring.

The sources said it was difficult to change the dates because the summit had been planned for more than a year.

Tokyo Protests Two Chinese Maritime Incidents

OW1202151593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1459 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Japan on Friday lodged a formal protest with China over two incidents in which Japanese ships were fired upon by Chinese patrol boats in the East China Sea, the Foreign Ministry said. The ministry said Japan also proposed that maritime safety officers of both countries convene an early technical meeting to discuss how to strengthen their system of communications.

Japan's feeling of "strong regret" over the incidents was conveyed by Tadashi Ikeda, director general of the ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau, to Chinese Embassy Counsellor Wang Yi.

Chinese patrol boats fired at Japanese fishing and cargo ships in international waters in the East China Sea on January 14 and February 2. China apologized in both cases but the incidents have led some Japanese observers to question whether China was making a deliberate show of muscle.

Ikeda was quoted as saying that while Japan considers "constructive" China's regrets and its promises to prevent reoccurances, the incidents have created a "heightened sense of uneasiness" among the Japanese people. He said those involved in the fishing industry in the southern Japanese islands of Okinawa are especially concerned.

Wang replied that China also has an interest in ensuring safety of navigation in the East China Sea and is ready to cooperate with Japan to that end. He promised to convey Japan's message and its proposal for talks to his home government.

Tokyo Revises Cambodia Peacekeeping Cooperation

OW1202032093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0311 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—The government amended its peacekeeping cooperation plan for Cambodia on Friday to expand the area covered by Japanese personnel and allow them to perform medical services.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who heads the Office for Coordinating Peacekeeping Efforts, increased the area of operation covered by Japanese personnel to include regions north of Phnom Penh in response to a request from the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

Previously the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force Engineer Corps engaged in road and bridge repair only in areas south of the capital.

The cabinet agreed to add medical cooperation to the tasks performed by Japanese troops in response to an UNTAC request for Japanese medical staff to treat peacekeepers from other countries.

Previously four medical officers were authorized to treat Japanese peacekeepers only.

Tokyo To Provide Aid for UN Somalia Efforts

OW1202014793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0139 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—The Japanese Government on Friday approved 9.6 million dollars in emergency assistance for United Nations organizations to aid Somalia.

The aid will include 5 million dollars to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, 1.3 million dollars to the U.N. Children's Fund, 1.4 million dollars to U.N. volunteers, and 1.9 million dollars to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The government is also considering 10 million dollars in food aid to follow.

The aid will be used for two million victims of drought and war in Somalia and one million Somali refugees who have fled the fighting to neighboring Ethiopia or Djibouti.

Last year, Japan provided a total of 27 million dollars in aid to Somalia.

Takeshita To Testify 3d Time on Sagawa Scandal

OW1202062093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0512 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita returns to a parliamentary panel next week to testify for the third time on his alleged role in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mob scandal. Takeshita's testimony as a sworn witness at a meeting of the Budget Committee of the House of Representatives on Wednesday will be one of the major events scheduled in Japan in the week from Sunday, February 14, to Saturday, February 20.

U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali is due to arrive in Tokyo on Monday, February 15, as the most prominent foreign official visiting Japan next week.

Takeshita will attract attention as he did on the two previous occasions late last year. He denies seeking the help of a gang boss in stopping a rightist smear campaign against him when he was vying for the presidency of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which automatically gave Takeshita the premiership.

Susumu Ishii, the late boss of the Inagawa-kai crime syndicate, in return reportedly obtained huge sums of money in loans from Hiroyasu Watanabe, former president of the now defunct Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin Trucking Company who is on trial for sending the company bankrupt.

Takeshita's coming testimony was a compromise worked out between the LDP and opposition parties to seek speedy parliamentary approval of the 72 trillion yen fiscal 1993 budget from April 1 to March 31 next year. Takeshita will appear before the Budget Committee Wednesday afternoon. Preceding him in the morning will be Ichiro Ozawa, former LDP secretary general who was one of top leaders in the faction founded by the former prime minister.

Ozawa and 43 others broke away from the faction on December 10 in a dispute stemming from the retirement from politics of former LDP powerbroker Shin Kanemaru over the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal.

Butrus-Ghali will arrive in Tokyo Monday afternoon and will stay in Japan until Friday. Emperor Akihito will host a luncheon for Butrus-Ghali at the Imperial Palace on Tuesday, February 16.

The U.N. secretary general and Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa will hold talks at the latter's office on Tuesday afternoon. He will hold a news conference on Thursday afternoon, and leave Japan the next day.

Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno will meet reporters assigned to the central bank on Tuesday in a news conference which was originally scheduled for last week. He may be asked about another cut in the official discount rate. The bank reduced the key lending rate by 0.75 percentage point to 2.5 percent per annum on February 4 to help the economy recover from prolonged recession.

Former Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata will speak at a luncheon meeting of the "kisaragikai" background news service at a Tokyo hotel on Friday, February 19. Hata, who together with Ozawa parted from the former Takeshita faction, now leads the faction bearing his name. Guests at the luncheon sponsored by the group associated with KYODO News Service are expected to watch whether Hata will touch on a possibility of his faction bolting from the LDP and forming a new conservative party.

A civil suit usually does not catch the public's attention, but there will undoubtedly be many people who will watch a Tokyo court proceeding on Monday. The principal defendant in the case concerning the merger of former Heiwa Sogo Bank and Sumitomo Bank has been making out-of-court statements saying he will spill the beans on money that changed hands in 1985 before Sumitomo literally absorbed Heiwa Sogo.

Shigeaki Isaka, former Heiwa Sogo auditor, claimed that some of the 4 billion yen used to purchase an overpriced gilded folding screen may have gone to Takeshita.

Former bank officials earlier said the former Heiwa Sogo Bank disbursed the money ostensibly to buy the screen but in reality to provide part of the funds to repurchase bank shares in connection with an intraoffice feud over management of the ill-fated bank.

Isaka said in a statement he submitted to the court in January that he paid an art dealer 4 billion yen of the bank's money for the screen. He said the dealer told him he would give some of the money to Takeshita, who was then finance minister.

Isaka is being sued by Sumitomo for disbursing Heiwa Sogo's money.

Hayashi: No Intention To Intervene in Market

OW1202014593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0133 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 12 KYODO—Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi said Friday he does not consider the yen's recent surge against the dollar is so steep and neither the Finance Ministry nor the Bank of Japan intends to intervene in the market.

Hayashi, speaking at a press meeting after a regular cabinet conference, said the yen's appreciation seems to be a result of some speculative moves and he will continue to watch the developments.

The dollar began Friday in Tokyo at 120.75 yen, down 0.77 yen from Wednesday's close. The Tokyo Foreign Exchange Market was closed Thursday for a national holiday.

Hayashi said the foreign exchange rate issue could be put on the table when he meets U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen in Washington on Friday afternoon Washington time.

He said the possibility of strengthening the yen against the dollar may be brought up at the meeting in connection with Japan's soaring trade surplus. The finance minister said, however, he and Bentsen will probably not agree on "manipulating" the exchange rates and he will instead try to explain Japan's effort to stimulate domestic demand.

There has been speculation in the market the Hayashi-Bentsen meeting and the February 27-28 conference of finance ministers and central bank governors of the Group of Seven (G-7) countries in London may decide to direct the yen higher against major currencies to throw cold water on Japan's rising surplus.

The Hayashi-Bentsen meeting was initially scheduled to be held Saturday morning. Hayashi said there is no special reason for the change in schedule.

Asked if he plans to meet German Finance Minister Theo Waigel, who will also be in Washington during his visit, Hayashi said no schedules are set but it will be a good chance if they are able to see each other. Hayashi denied the possibility of a three-way meeting among himself, Bentsen, and Waigel.

Hayashi will return to Japan on Sunday evening.

MSDF Plans To Strengthen Sea-Lane Security

OW1202040593 Naha NHK Radio in Japanese 2212 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] The Maritime Self-Defense Force [MSDF] plans to increase the number of P3C antisubmarine patrol planes deployed on Okinawa from the current 10 to 16 in July. With this increase, MSDF capability to search for submarines in the waters off Okinawa will be greatly enhanced. This plan is based on the National Defense Program Outline, which stipulates an increase in the number of P3C's deployed in Japan to 100 to strengthen sea-lane defense.

According to MSDF officers, the number of P3C's attached to the MSDF's 5th Air Force Group [name as heard] stationed at Naha Air Base will increase to 16 in July. They said that the unit formation in the group will also change. Although currently one flying unit has been formed in the group, two flying units will be established by attaching eight P3C's to each unit. Also, the number of MSDF personnel in the group will increase to 250. With this increase, the capability to search for submarines in the waters off Okinawa will be greatly enhanced. In addition to the function of a P3C transmission facility to be constructed on Okinawa, the role of Okinawa as a strong point for sea-lane defense will be further strengthened.

Okinawan Union Leaders Object to National Flag

OW1202013493 Naha NHK Television in Japanese 0315 GMT 10 Feb 93

[Text] Regarding the national tree-planting festival, which will be held in Itoman city in April with the presence of the emperor and the empress, various prefectural labor unions have requested to Governor Masahide Ota that prefectural residents not be forced to stand at attention to the hoisting of the Hinomaru [Japanese national flag] or sing Kimi-ga-yo [Japanese national anthem] at the tree-planting ceremony, and that there should not be excessive guard on that day.

Those who submitted the requests today were 10 representatives from four labor unions, including the headquarters of the All-Japan Prefectural and Municipal Workers Union and the Prefectural Government Workers Union. Representatives from the workers unions submitted their requests to Governor Ota, saying that they agree to the significance of holding the national tree-planting festival but that it would involve various problems such as using the emperor's visit for political purposes.

They then requested that prefectural residents not be forced to stand at attention to Hinomaru-hoisting or to sing Kimi-ga-yo at the tree-planting ceremony. Noting reports of human rights violations involving prefectural residents during the last national athletic meet because of heavy security, the representatives also requested that special attention be paid so no such incidents are repeated this time.

In response, Governor Ota stated that serious consideration would be given to their requests and that utmost efforts would be made to comply with their requests. Meanwhile, he requested the representatives' cooperation, saying that the tree-planting festival is a national event. Governor Ota also promised to give his reply regarding measures to be taken by the prefectural government based on the union representatives' requests by 22 February, as they requested.

North Korea

DPRK Replaces Two Building Industry Ministers

SK1102225493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2103 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Central People's Committee decree on dismissals and appointments of two ministers of the DPRK State Administration Council]

[Text] The DPRK Central People's Committee has decided the following:

1. Comrade Kye Hyong-sun has been dismissed [haeim] as minister of machine-building industry, and Comrade Kwak Tong-ki has been appointed as minister of machine-building ministry.

2. Comrade Chu Yong-hun has been dismissed as minister of building-materials industry, and Comrade Yi Tong-chun has been appointed as minister of building-materials industry.

[Signed] DPRK President Kim Il-song
[Dated] 11 February 1993

KCNA: VOA Spreads 'False Reports' on Economy

SK1202110793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 (KCNA)—Voice of America and some other Western media are now spreading ridiculous reports that the economic development of the DPRK has struck a snag with the collapse of the former Soviet Union and socialist countries in East Europe.

Nobody would lend an ear to these false reports, still less would be frightened. But, they are so dastardly that we cannot but say a few words.

The false reports spread by the paid trumpetters accustomed to false propaganda are an anti-DPRK smear campaign prompted by a crafty and sinister political aim to impair the international prestige of the DPRK and isolate it at any cost.

Voice of America alleged that the "planned economy" of the DPRK had "depended" on loans from the former Soviet Union and socialist countries in East Europe and was "deteriorating" after the collapse of the Soviet Union. This argument is devoid of knowledge of the potentials of the independent national economy of the DPRK.

The independent national economy of the DPRK is steadily developing at a high rate, not affected by any worldwide economic fluctuation or by the collapse of any countries. Herein lies its great potential

By building this powerful economy walking on its own feet, the DPRK has recorded an economic growth rate of eight percent on an annual average in recent years.

The economic growth rate of developed capitalist countries has been less than one percent in the same period. Viewed in this light, the economic growth rate of the DPRK is very high and this eloquently proves the advantages of the socialist economic system. It does not make sense to talk about a "snag" in our economy which is steadily developing at a high rate.

The independent national economy does not mean a closed economy. We have trade and other economic relations with many countries with differing social systems on the principles of complete equality, mutual benefit and mutual accommodation in each other's interest. Last year, the Standing Commmittee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK adopted laws on foreigners' investment, contractual joint venture and foreign enterprises by formulating part of such economic relations. Some Western, media however, spread false rumours about it in an attempt to underestimate the economic potentials of the United States.

The false propaganda is of no use. The foolish attempt will bring them nothing but criticism and ridicule from progressive mankind and press circles of the world.

Military Sources Report U.S. Air Exercises

SK1202112793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged joint air war exercises against the North under various names, part of the adventurous "Team Spirit 93" joint military manoeuvres, according to military sources.

The U.S. imperialists Wednesday brought a formation of "EA-6B" electronic jamming planes from the Atsuki base of Japan to the sky above Yoju, Tongduchon and Phochon to stage an air electronic war game for electronic jamming.

Formations of overseas-based "F-16" and "F-15" fighter bombers and some 100 fighter bombers and assault planes of the U.S. Airforce and South Korean puppet airforce based in South Korea launched bombing exercises in the above-said sky for an intensive strike at targets.

On the same day, the U.S. imperialists staged a joint strike exercise against the North in the sky above Samchok, Wonju and Woeyon Islet. Participating in the war game, part of the "Team Spirit 93", were various kinds of 20 fighters from the U.S. air bases in Japan and some 300 warplanes of the U.S. airforce present in South Korea and the puppet airforce.

Meanwhile the U.S. imperialists committed air espionage against the northern half of Korea on 11 occasions with "U-2" high-altitude strategic reconnaissance plane, "RV-1" and "RC-12" army strategic reconnaissance planes and other reconnaissance planes.

Daily Urges U.S. To Renounce Policy of Strength

SK1202115593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 12 Feb 93

["End to Cold War Policy on Korean Peninsula Urged"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 (KCNA)—Now that the cold war has come to an end, the United States must get rid of the old mode of thinking of the cold war era, clearly see the situation, give up the "Team Spirit" joint military maneuvers, a leftover of the cold war policy, and renounce the policy of strength for confrontation, urges NODONG SINMUN today.

The paper brands the "Team Spirit" as a criminal act to block the implementation of the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization, avoid an overall inspection of the U.S. nuclear weapons and bases in South Korea, keep the U.S. military presence in South Korea and, in the long run, unleash a nuclear war.

The paper says in a signed article:

The U.S. authorities stick to the policy of strength for confrontation on the Korean peninsula, though they talk glibly about the "end of the cold war" and "advent of the peace era."

They seek to keep hold on South Korea as their colony and military base and forward nuclear base and contain the DPRK and other countries with it as a springboard.

Their outcries over "nuclear suspicion" are a false propaganda reversing black and white and a smokescreen to conceal their cold war policy, the policy of strength for confrontation against the DPRK.

If the United States thinks it can frighten or subdue the Korean people with military pressure and a showdown of strength, it is an entirely anachronistic mistake and day-dream.

It is the Korean people's unbreakable faith and will that they will never tolerate any act infringing on the sovereignty and dignity of the nation.

To stick to the cold war policy will lead to self-destruction; it is an anti-historical act.

Daily Notes ROK Support for IAEA Inspection

SK1202031493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0025 GMT 12 Feb 93

[NODONG SINMUN 12 Feb commentary: "An Insidious Attempt of the Treacherous Group"]

[Text] According to a report, the South Korean authorities recently held a so-called working-level counterplanning meeting. They reached a decision to act in concert [chokkuk hounghagiro] actively with the International Atomic Energy Agency's plan for a special nuclear yinspection [tukpyol sachal] of the North. Such a decision came after they kicked up anti-Republic smear maneuvers in collusion with the United States, babbling about delays in mutual inspections, refusal to comply to some nuclear inspections, concealment of nuclear facilities and nuclear materials. Needless to say, this derives from an insidious aim.

As for the nuclear inspection issue, it is, by nature, an issue which should be solved between us and the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. It is not an issue in which the South Korean authorities should meddle.

We treasure national dignity and sovereignty more than life. Any unwarranted interference and pressure from outside forces in our domestic affairs will not sway us. It is not just once or twice that we have declared that we have no nuclear weapons and that we have neither the intention or capability to develop them. We received international inspections pursuant to the Nuclear Safeguard Agreement confidently [tangdanghage] because we have a peaceful and irreproachable [kyolbaek] nuclear policy.

Negotiations between us and the IAEA are being carried out in a normal manner [chongsangjokuro]. The IAEA has further verified through numerous irregular inspections that we have utilized nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes. The problem is that the South Korean authorities have hampered us from implementing the duties pursuant to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty by resuming the Team Spirit nuclear war exercise against us in collusion with the United States under the pretext of our nonexistent nuclear development.

In order for us to sincerely [songsilhage] receive the IAEA's inspection in the future, the circumstances and conditions necessary for this should be provided.

We cannot receive nuclear inspection smoothly [sunjoropke] under conditions in which the United States and the South Korean authorities frantically stage the fire game of nuclear war in South Korea where more than 1,000 nuclear weapons are deployed against the North where no nuclear weapon exist.

South Korean rulers, talking of special inspections and the like while staging a fire game of war harming fellow countrymen with nuclear weapons in collusion with outside forces, are acting like those whose brains are (?abnormal).

The United States and the South Korean authorities should be held responsible for having created obstacles to an international inspection by staging the nuclear war exercise against us.

We have no nuclear facilities that we have not reported and have no hidden nuclear-related materials.

The military facilities that have nothing to do with the nuclear issue cannot be the target of inspection required by the Nuclear Safeguards Accord.

It is the South Korean ruling quarters who have concealed nuclear facilities and weapons and have incited the fever of the nuclear development and nuclear war maneuvers. Fearing that the U.S. nuclear weapons concealed in an underground depot and that their development of nuclear weapons will be brought to light, the South Korean authorities persistently refused to accept our claim about overall [chonmyon] nuclear inspection at the meetings of the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee. Therefore, it is unreasonable for the South Korean authorities to talk about special inspection [tukpyol sachal] of our nuclear facilities based on information and data provided by someone.

Getting the IAEA to open our military facilities and bases because of an impure strategic purpose to disarm us is a crime.

It is clear that by using the North's nonexistent suspicion of nuclear development as a pretext, the South Korean authorities are trying to place the responsibility on us for the nuclear threat on the Korean peninsula; to isolate and stifle us; to prevent the overall inspection [chonmyon sachal] of the U.S. nuclear weapons and bases in South Korea; to leave them in place and maintain the U.S. nuclear forward base; to accelerate the development of their own nuclear weapons; and to ignite the fuse of nuclear war on the Korean peninsula.

However, this is a miscalculation. We will never [choltaero] tolerate any act that infringes upon our sovereignty and safety. If the United States and the South Korean authorities impose any improper measure on us by using this issue that should be resolved between us and the IAEA for military and political purposes, we will take corresponding self-defensive measures.

The South Korean authorities should completely withdraw U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea, not constantly spread rumors to the world about the North's nuclear development. They should stop development of their own nuclear weapons and the process of nuclear armament they have begun. They should discontinue [chungji] the Team Spirit nuclear test war.

If they continue to kick up strategic nuclear commotions about us and continue the nuclear war gamble in spite of our repeated warnings, they will be held entirely [chonjokin] responsible for all consequences arising therefrom.

South Support Denounced

SK1202054293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0511 GMT 12 Feb 93

["Sinister Intention of Traitors"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 (KCNA)—We will take a self-defensive measure if the United States and the South Korean authorities impose any unreasonable measure on us as regards the "nuclear problem" with a view to using the problem between us and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for other military and political purposes, warns NODONG SINMUN today.

In the height of their anti-DPRK campaign on the U.S. script, the South Korean authorities recently declared that they would "actively respond" in case the IAEA promoted "special inspection" of the North, the news analyst notes, and says:

The problem of nuclear inspection must, by nature be solved between us and the IAEA. It is not a problem into which the South Korean authorities should poke their nose.

Any unreasonable interference or pressure from outside cannot go down with us.

More than once have we declared that we have no nuclear weapons and that we have neither intention nor capacity to develop them.

We are undergoing with dignity international inspection under the Nuclear Safeguards Accord because our nuclear policy is peaceful and honest.

The problem is that the South Korean authorities make it impossible for us to implement our obligations under the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty as they are resuming the "Team Spirit" nuclear war rehearsal with the United States against the North with the fictitious "nuclear arms development" of the North as a pretext.

We have no nuclear facilities we have not reported, and have no nuclear material concealed.

It is the South Korean rulers who are getting overheated in nuclear development and nuclear war preparations, concealing nuclear fcilities and weapons. It is outrageous of such fellows to demand "special inspection" of the North. It is a criminal act motivated by a sinister intention to make the military objects and bases of the North open to the public and disarm the North militarily through the IAEA.

It is obvious that the South Korean authorities seek to use the card of "suspicion of nuclear development" against the North in shifting the blame for nuclear threat on the Korean peninsula on to the North, isolating and stifling the North, blocking an overall inspection of the U.S. nuclear weapons and bases in South Korea, leaving South Korea a forward nuclear base of the U.S., stepping up their nuclear arms development and unleashing a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula.

They must get the U.S. nuclear weapons totally withdrawn from South Korea, stop the criminal nuclear development and nuclear armament and give up the test nuclear war "Team Spirit," rather than peddle abroad the wornout false rumour about "nuclear development" of the North.

Reunification Group Chief Denounces Team Spirit

SK1202110293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 12 Feb 93

["Resumption of 'Team Spirit' Under Fire"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 (KCNA)—Kang Il, chairman of the CIS regional headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminnyon) and chairman of the CIS committee for the promotion of Korea's reunification, and Yi Tong-chol, chairman of the Moscow Committee for the Promotion of Korea's reunification, when interviewed by the correspondent of NODONG SINMUN in Russia on February 6, denounced the decision of the United States and the South Korean authorities to resume the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises.

They condemned the resumption of the "Team Spirit" as an act of trampling upon the desire of Koreans in the North and the South and abroad for peaceful reunification which has grown intense following the adoption of the inter-Korean agreement, and as a challenge to the world's peaceloving people who want the removal of the sources of the cold war on the Korean peninsula which was divided by outside forces.

They urged that the United States and the South Korean authorities should ponder over the grave consequences to be entailed by the resumption of the "Team Spirit" and cancel the war exercises at once.

Increase of ROK Military Personnel on MDL Viewed

SK1202115693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT 12 Feb 93

["Dangerous Military Steps of the U.S."—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 (KCNA)—The United States recently decided to bring into South Korea F-16 fighter-bombers and other latest-type military equipment, maintain its operational command in the Joint Security Area on the Military Demarcation Line [MDL] and increase the number of the security personnel there.

Commenting on this, MINJU CHOSON today says the military steps are a dangerous act which will increase tensions persisting in Korea and bring the situation of the peninsula to the brink of war.

The analyst further says:

As for the joint security area of the MDL, it is the military contact point where Armed Forces of the DPRK and the United States are standing in sharp confrontation. It is known that the U.S. imperialist aggression troops caused the August 18 incident, the November 23 shooting incident, etc. There in the past, ruthlessly killing or wounding our security personnel and rendering the situation extremely strained.

Nobody can predict when the U.S. imperialists will cause another provocative incident in the demilitarized zone including the joint security area on the MDL, while staging the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises against the DPRK, and start another war of aggression under this pretext.

The United States must make a substantial contribution to a peaceful settlement of the Korean question by withdrawing its aggression troops from the joint security area and all other parts of South Korea and promptly stopping the adventurous war game against the DPRK with a switchover in its anachronistic Korean policy.

The South Korean authorities must stop at once such criminal acts as inciting antagonism within the nation and staging frantic military exercises against the North, after building a high barrier along the Military Demarcation Line, in league with outside forces.

Daily Denounces Japan's 'Arms Buildup'

SK1202053093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0503 GMT 12 Feb 93

["Militarist Eagle Ready To Fly"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 (KCNA)—It is contrary to the demand of the time for disarmament and detente that the Japanese authorities are accelerating arms buildup and staging military exercises even abroad, with no country presenting a military threat to Japan or intending to invade it, says NODONG SINMUN today.

Noting that Japan plans to stage 13 rounds of exercises by dispatching army, navy and airforce overseas this year, the analyst says:

The exercises are expected to involve an exercise of airlifting combatants of the "Self-Defence Forces [SDF]" abroad by C-130 transport plane, a drill of dropping combat materials and manoeuvres of firing ground-to-air, ground-to-sea and anti-tank helicopter missiles and other kinds of high performance weapons.

All of them are not "defensive" but offensive exercises aimed at overseas aggression.

Japan is now examining the introduction of C-17 large transport plane with a longer flying range and capable of carrying larger quantities of combat materials and even large transport ships.

Besides, Japan frequently stages joint military manoeuvres with the U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force and regularly has various drills with the United States and its allies on the Pacific.

The cloak of "defence" and "peace" employed by Japan is nothing but a smokescreen for covering up its preparations of aggression and war. Under the cloak Japan has largely increased military expenditures to reinforce the "SDF" qualitatively and quantitatively and speed up the conversion of the country into a military power.

Japan intends to emerge as a military and political power commensurate with its economic strength so as to expand its sphere of military and political influence in the international community and realise its dominationist design.

Japan's moves to become a military power and its overseas troops dispatch pose a big threat to peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

Cuban Youth Hail Release of Yim Su-kyong

SK1102134793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 11 (KCNA)—The Union of Young Communists of Cuba, the Federation of University Students of Cuba and the Federation of Pupils of Cuba in a statement published in joint name on February 1 hailed the release of Yim Su-kyong on parole, wishing that she would remain the "flower of reunification" in full bloom.

The statement noted that Yim Su-kyong, who participated in the 13th world festival of youth and students held in Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in July, 1989 and recorded a brilliant page in the struggle for national reunification, was arrested by the South Korean authorities on the unreasonable charge of violating the "national security law" and served a prison term of three years and five months.

And the Leiria Regional Leadership of the Communist Youth of Portugal in a declaration issued on February 7 pointed out that Yim Su-kyong's release on parole meant the South Korean authorities' admission of their unreasonable arrest and imprisonment of Yim Su-kyong and was a victory of the solidarity movement of the progressive youth organizations of the world which made active efforts for her release.

Kim Chong-il Sends Thanks to Commerce Workers

SK1202105893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il extended thanks to working people engaged in commerce.

The officials and employees of the Unyul County public catering management office in South Hwanghae Province and of the management office where comrade Choe Chol-yong works have annually overfulfilled their plans by producing and supplying quantities of raw and other materials and contributed to the betterment of the people's living through their brisk commercial services.

Thanks of Comrade Kim Chong-il also went to Kim Chon-man, an instructor of the West Pyongyang trolley bus station, and his wife So Hye-suk, Choe Yong-sim, an assistant doctor of the Chongju County people's hospital, and her husband Yi Myong-kun and other party members and working people who brought orphaned children and old people living alone to their homes and are looking after them.

Northern Railway Switched to 'Electric Traction'

SK1202051193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2300 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 11 (KCNA)—The northern railway Hyesan-Manpo has been switched over to electric traction and opened to traffic.

The electrification of the line by the heroic and devoted efforts of youths and railway builders is a gift of loyalty presented by the young people to the auspicious February holiday and the historical eighth congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] and a big monumental structure which adds lustre to the Workers' Party age with the might of the independent national economy.

The young builders who have devoted all their wisdom and courage in carrying into effect the intention of the party and the leader moved more than 100,000 cubic metres of earth, built over 7,500 square metres of retaining walls, erected no fewer than 5,000 electric poles, built ten odd power plants, constructed operating buildings and lowered the beds of tunnels. They laid auxilliary wire and cable lines in the 255.5 kilometre section and assembled several hundred units of equipment. They finished all this working a year or more.

The opening ceremony of the electric Hyesan-Manpo line was held at the Manpo youth railway station with a large attendance today.

It was participated in by many youth shock brigade members, railway builders, helpers and railway employees, working people and youths and students in Manpo.

Han Song-yong, secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], conveyed a congratulatory message of the party Central Committee to the youth shock brigade members nd railway builders who had performed feats in the electrification of the northern railway.

The message says the members of the youth shock brigade and railway builders fully demonstrated once again through the difficult project the revolutionary mettle of the Korean young people to devote their all to the party and the revolution and clearly showed that once they turned out under the leadership of the party, there was nothing impossible for them. It highly appreciates the members of the [name indistinct] youth shock brigade and railway builders who completed the electrification of the northern railway as a grand monumental structure of the Workers' Party era by displaying their intense loyalty to the party and the leader and their patriotic devotion to render greater significance to the 8th congress of the LSWYK and greatly contribute to the development and prosperity of the socialist homeland.

In his report Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the C.C., the LSWYK, said the electrification of the northern railway was part of the successful matrialization of the intention of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the WPK for the chuche-oriented electrification of railways.

He pointed out that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il assigned the whole project to young people and took every necessary measure to accelerate it and also solved all the problems arising in the project and in the life of the builders.

He called on the youth shock brigade members and railway builders to take the lead in the implementation of the party's policy of bringing about a radical turn in transport, not remaining contented with their success.

A train started at the Hyesan youth railway station today with due ceremony.

KCNA Lauds Youth Movement's Achievements

SK1202065093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0455 GMT 12 Feb 93

["Great Achievements Glorifying History of Korean Youth Movement; KCNA report"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 (KCNA)—The Korean Central News Agency on February 10 issued a report "Great Achievements Glorifying History of Korean Youth Movement" on the occasion of the eighth congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK].

The proud path covered by the Korean youth movement since the seventh congress of the LSWYK (in November 1981) was a course of loyalty, a course of victory in which the young people under the wise guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea have creditably discharged their noble duty for the country and people, the times and the revolution and stoutly inherited generation after generation the life-line of the revolutionary cause of chuche started by the great leader President Kim Il-song, the report says.

Recalling that the ranks of our young vanguards have swelled to five million, the report says that the problem of young men and women has been successfully solved in our country and a large contingent of young vanguards has emerged to faithfully contribute to the revolution and construction. This reality, the report notes, immensely delights our people and fills them with greatest pride and confidence.

It quotes the great leader President Kim Il-song as saying:

"We can say with confidence that we have splendidly trained a dependable new generation who are to carry forward the future of the country and the revolution on their shoulders. The existence of the young people who are infinitely loyal to the party and the revolution is a sure guarantee for the ultimate victory of our revolution, and it promises the bright future of our country."

Our party expounded the unique idea and theory to develop the Korean youth movement started by President Kim Il-song onto a new higher stage and wisely leads the efforts for its realization, the report says, and continues:

Comrade Kim Chong-il clarified the significance and importance of strengthening the party's guidance over the work with youth and children, developed in depth the chuche-based idea and theory on the youth movement including the idea on building the LSWYK into militant reserves of the party, indicated the goal and orientation for the young people and main tasks and ways for their accomplishment and led them to fulfil their mission for the party and the revolution.

The LSWYK work has been strengthened among youth and students, with the result that some 250 universities, colleges, faculties and classes have been awarded the three-revolution red flag or twice three-revolution red flag, some 790 senior middle schools have won the title of the honored red flag school and twice honored red flag school and as many as 59,960 classes the title of the honored red flag class.

In the heat of the drive to prepare as revolutionary intellectuals equipped with versatile knowledge under the motto "Let's study for the sake of Korea!" more than 1,400 classes and 5,480 students have received "July 15 prize of honour student" and over 7,200 candidates for associate doctors, upwards of 1,900 inventors and some 700 recipients of "the student prize for scientific research" have emerged from among the students.

Noting that the youth loyal to the party's cause is the pride of our people, the report goes on:

Our youth consider it their highest pride and greatest happiness to loyally uphold their leader and party, cherishing their infinite fidelity to them as their faith and the sense of their obligation.

It is the revolutionary creed and will of our youngsters of the third and fourth generations to loyally uphold the party's leadership and traverse the road of the revolution, always casting in their lot with the party like Kim Hyok and Cha Kwang-su and other young communists who explored the untrodden path of the Korean revolution with an indomitable will under the guidance of the great leader, the heroic soldiers in the 50s and the young heroes in the difficult post-war period.

Over the last ten odd years, some 170 of our young people have become heroes. About 210 organizations and 3,790 youths have received "Kim Il-song youth honour prize," the highest prize for the Korean youth, and more than 100,000 people have been awarded high state decorations.

The proud traits of the young generation fostered by our party find clear expression in their devoted efforts for the prosperity of the country and the nation and for society and the collective.

Over the last ten odd years, youth and children have created nearly 1.2 million hectares of forests of oil-bearing trees and trees for economic use across the country.

Nearly 1.5 million young people have volunteered to work in coal mines, construction sites of power stations, tideland reclamation projects and other difficult and toilsome fields to play the pivot role in economic construction.

Our young people dedicate their lives to their revolutionary comrades, society and the collective and look after others' children and parents just as they do their own. Such beautiful deeds are reported almost every day. This clearly shows part of the high ideological and moral world of our younger generation who have been educated in socialist morals and been trained ideologically on revolutionary lines since their childhood.

Our young people have grown to be a vigorous force of society and a powerful force of socialist construction and play the role of a vanguard and shock brigade in economic construction.

Our party expanded the youth shock brigade movement as required by the developing revolution so that youth shock brigades with a total of 1,744,000 young people have been organized to help the youth play the vanguard role.

The members of the speed campaign youth shock brigade and other young people have erected 23 grand monumental edifices and completed many other construction projects conducive to the political and ideological life and material and cultural life of our people and the economic construction of the country since the seventh congress of the LSWYK.

About 2,600 youth shock brigades for technical innovation and some 760 ones for automation have been organized at different industrial establishments to promote dynamically the chuche orientation, modernization and scientization of the national economy.

The young people of Korea intensely loyal to the party and the leader will creditably discharge their mission and duty as a shock force and youth vanguard of our party in the course of accomplishing the socialist cause under the banner of the chuche idea.

Youths Advance Into Sectors of National Economy

SK1202043193 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 10 Feb 93

[Text] Many youths of the new generation who volunteered to advance into difficult and painstaking sectors stand in the van of the worthwhile struggle to greet the 8th congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK] with high political zeal and brilliant labor achievements.

Since the LSWYK members of the Hamhung Songchongang garment plant upheld the party's call in 1990 and visited the Taehung youth mine complex, some 300,000 youths from all walks of life have gone into coal mines, mines, cooperative farms, and other places and are the shining glory of youth as creators of feats.

The proud, reliable, and dedicated youth of the new generation, who rush to the most difficult and painstaking sectors of the national economy, are inflamed with ardor. They exhibit lofty communist traits which only our youth brought up with the great party's benevolence can demonstrate and can be found only in our country where the leader, the party, and the masses comprise one social and political organic body.

KCNA Details Youth's Exploits, Deeds

SK1202050993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2218 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 11 (KCNA)—There are a good many monumental edifices adding lustre to the era in the proud annals of the Korean revolution. The proud edifices are associated with the feats of the Korean young people.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has said: "Our young people must march courageously to the most vibrant sites of socialist construction and must all perform exploits and become heroes."

Our young people have grown into heroes of creation and construction with the trust and love of Comrade Kim Chong-il and their exploits are shining in the northern railways, the monumental structure of the 80s.

This was a difficult project without precedent in the history of railway construction of the country either in terms of its length or in work conditions.

Comrade Kim Chong-il assigned the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea (LSWYK) to the project on August 20, 1982, firmly believing in their force.

And he repeatedly took benevolent steps so that the youth shock brigade members could display their resourcefulness and valor to the full.

Saying there must be life and songs wherever young people are, he sent them musical instruments and TV sets for every bedroom and provided thick wadded clothes, shoes and woolen caps for them. On holidays he sent presents imbued with love to them before to anyone else, when the construction was in difficult condition clearly indicated the direction and ways of the construction to accelerate the long tunnel project with main emphasis on engineering works. [sentence as received]

Comrade Kim Chong-il sent congratulatory messages upon hearing their achievements and honored them with admission to the Workers' Party of Korea and state decorations, considerate of their wishes.

Under the warm loving care they performed such exploits as finishing the 250 kilometre long railway construction in the Hyesan-Manpho section in a little more than five years by digging tunnels through high and steep mountains and building railway bridges across swift river currents and deep valleys.

Comrade Kim Chong-il saw to it that many tunnels and railway bridges were named "youth" and "speed campaign youth" and the railway section between Hyesan and Manpho was called the youth line so that the proud feats of the young builders could be conveyed to the posterity.

And he took care that the monument to the northern railways was erected at the Hyesan youth railway station plaza.

The dear leader put young people in the van whenever difficult and honorable tasks were raised, saying the young people are the most vigorous force of society and masters of the future.

It was on September 1, 1982, the day following the end of the Hamhung plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, which was held to decisively increase the production of nonferrous metals. [sentence as received]

Saying the young people should take the lead in implementing the decision of the Hamhung plenary meeting, Comrade Kim Chong-il clearly indicated the ways for it.

Thus, a national meeting of young activists and a torch processiom were held at the Komdok mining complex on September 3 with the attendance of over 10,000 young activists and youth shock brigade members from mines, factories and enterprises in the field of nonferrous metals and other related domains of the country.

The young people miraculously built ore dressing plant No. 3 of Komdok with a 10 million ton capacity atop a mountain 1,200 matres above sea level in one year.

The feats of the young people are reflected in the West Sea barrage of world standard and in the construction of the capital in which more than 260 monumental structures have been built for three years at the end of the 80s, whose total floor space are 5.5 million square metres.

Their exploits have been engraved as "Youth..." [as received] on monumental structures symbolizing the era such as power stations, coal and ore mines, factories, enterprises, 10,000 ton press, large cargo ships and electric locomotives.

Comrade Kim Chong-il said whenever an occasion offered itself that the young people should live up to the expectation and trust of the Workers' Party of Korea by displaying their intense loyalty and devotion.

Last year he took benevolent steps to grandly celebrate the first anniversary of the youth day which was the first to be set in the world and showed them again deep trust describing them as reliable successors to the revolutionary cause of chuche, the socialist cause.

Under this loving care the young people of Korea are performing new exploits in the worthwhile endeavors to exalt the most advantageous socialism centred on the popular masses.

Working-Class Party's Role in Organizing Stressed

SK1202120493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1052 GMT 12 Feb 93

["Party Is Hard Core Uniting Popular Masses With Leader Organisationally and Ideologically"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today stresses in a signed article that the working-class party is the hard core in combining the popular masses with the leader organisationally and ideologically.

The article quotes the dear leader comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"The party is the hard core joining the popular masses with the leader organisationally and ideologically."

It further says:

Rallying the popular masses around the leader organisationally and ideologically is a matter of principled significance in advancing the revolution and construction victoriously.

The organisational and ideological combination of the leader with the masses of the people is not realised of its own accord. This work can be successfully carried out only by the political vanguard organisation which is rallied most solidly around the leader organisationally and ideologically.

The working-class party is the hard core joining the popular masses with the leader organisationally and ideologically. The working-class party, inter alia plays a decisive role in linking the popular masses with the leader organisationally. The orgnisational combination of the popular masses with the leader means becoming a socio-political integrity centring around the leader, being enlisted in the political orgnisation led by the leader. The leader founds a party and other political organisations and, through it, takes care of the destiny of the popular masses and leads them.

The working-class party not only admits the progressive elements of revolution to the party and unites them with the leader organisationally but also ensures the leader's guidance over other political organisations and thus rallies all the members of society around the leader organisationally. The working-class party also pays a decisive role in joining the popular masses with the leader ideologically.

The ideological combination of the popular masses with the leader means to achieve the ideological unity of the whole society by firmly equipping all the members of society with the revolutionary idea of the leader.

Through its Organisations that have struck roots among broad sections of masses and party members, the working-class party explains the essence and validity of the revolutionary idea of the leader among all the members of society, checks the infiltration of all motley ideas and thus makes only the revolutionary idea of the leader prevail in the whole society.

Our party has made only the revolutionary idea of the great leader President Kim Il-song prevail throughout the society in the whole period when it has led the revolution and construction. Great, indeed, is the feat of our party which won a great victory of singlehearted unity by rallying the entire people around him organisationally and ideologically.

KCNA Reviews 12 Feb Pyongyang Press

SK1202061793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0523 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang February 12 (KCNA)—Papers here today highlight news of a grand ceremony for unveiling an immortal monument inscribed with the ode written by the great leader President Kim Il-song on the 50th birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il which was erected at the Mt. Paektu secret camp, the holy land of revolution.

Printed in NODONG SINMUN is a message to Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from Comrade Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, in reply to his message of greetings sent to the latter on the 34th anniversay of the victory of the Cuban revolution.

It is reported in the press that Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to different units.

Given in the press is an account of a national symposium held here to celebrate the birthday of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

An article of NODONG SINMUN says that songs highly praising Comrade Kim Chong-il were created and published in different parts of the world.

Papers carry congratulatory messages sent by the C.C., the Workers' Party of Korea to the youth shock-brigade members and railway builders who had performed feats in the electrification of the northern railway (Hyesan-Manpo line) and an account of a ceremony of opening the electrified line to traffic.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an article headlined "Party Is Hard Core Which Links Popular Masses With the Leader Organisationally and Ideologically".

Figuring large in the daily is a report published by the KCNA on the occasion of the forthcoming 8th congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea under the title "Great Achievements Glorifying History of Korean Youth Movement".

The daily reports about a joint statement issued between the Workers' Party of Korea and the Communist Party of the Peoples of Spain.

MINJU CHOSON informs the readers of a plenary meeting of the Administration Council on the summing up of the fulfilment of the January assignments of the national economy for this year and the discussion of measures for beating the February targets.

An exhibition opened to mark the 20th anniversary of the start of the three-revolution team movement, says the press.

According to the press, the Pyongyang declaration "Let Us Defend and Advance the Socialist Cause" was signed by 167 political parties of the world.

Papers convey world public voices supporting the Korean people's cause of national reunification.

Papers carry a statement of the North side headquarters of the National Federation of Youth and Students for the Country's Reunification condemning the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises of the United States and the South Korean authorities.

NODONG SINMUN hits out at the shameless demand of the South Korean authorities for a "special inspection" of the North while concealing the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea.

The press conveys news that the U.S. imperialists brought formations of fighter planes into South Korea and staged an air war gamble.

MINJU CHOSON in a commentary raps at the scheme of the U.S. bellicose elements to reinforce armed forces in South Korea.

A NODONG SINMUN article brands the "Team Spirit 93" joint military exercises as a nuclear war gamble going against the desire of the nation and the trend of the times.

Papers run articles denouncing the overseas dispatch of the "Self-Defence Forces" of Japan.

An article of NODONG SINMUN warns that the United States renounce its Cold War policy on the Korean peninsula.

A commentary of MINJU CHOSON stresses that the U.N. resolution on the return of the Palestinians deported by Israel must be implemented sincerely.

International news columns of the press include reports that the Pakistani prime minister urged regional cooperation, the Indian prime minister called for peace at home and the Cuban foreign minister lambasted the anti-Cuban step of the United States.

South Korea

YONHAP: Kim Chong-il To Visit Beijing

SK1202021693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0153 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Beijing, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—Kim Chong-il, heir apparent and son of North Korean President Kim Il-song, will visit Beijing early next month for talks with Communist Party General-secretary Jiang Zemin, State President Yang Shangkun and other Chinese leaders, a Western diplomat well versed in Chinese affairs said Friday.

Kim's visit, his second since 1983, is aimed at getting China's top leaders to officially acknowledge his assumption of power from his aging father, and by so doing enhance his authority and status as leader of North Korea prior to the succession.

The diplomat said Kim will travel from Pyongyang by train and tour major cities in China's northeastern provinces, home to pro-Pyongyang ethnic Koreans, during his one-week stay.

The diplomat said Kim's visit was confirmed by key sources inside the Chinese Communist Party and the government.

Kim was expected to solicit more economic aid from China and discuss with Chinese leaders international inspection of North Korea's nuclear installations, he said.

Kim could also ask for China's active support in North Korea's bid to normalize relations with the United States and Japan, he added.

China was expected to repeat its call for North Korea to actively pursue reforms and open-door policies as China has done, he said.

Kim's trip to northeastern China seems to be prompted by a trend among ethnic Koreans there to incline toward Seoul since South Korean President No Tae-u's visit to Beijing in September last year.

The number of pro-Pyongyang Korean residents is believed to have declined to between 7,000 and 8,000.

IAEA Plan to Inspect DPRK Facilities Noted

YONHAP: IAEA Board To Convene

SK1202033393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0224 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Berlin, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] will probably convene a board of governors meeting around Feb. 18 to discuss what measures it will take if North Korea rejects or does not respond to its request for a special inspection of its nuclear facilities.

The IAEA has decided to invoke a special inspection of North Korea's nuclear facilities and sent a message to Pyongyang in the name of Director-general Hans Blix on Wednesday, IAEA spokesman David Kyd said in Vienna.

It was believed that the Blix message, addressed to Nuclear Industry Minister Choe Hak-kun, did not set a deadline for North Korea to respond to its request.

But Kyd said the date for the 35-nation Board of Governors meeting will be decided next Monday, strongly indicating that the IAEA has set Feb. 15 for itself as a deadline for a North Korean response.

The Board of Governors will probably meet on Feb. 18, if North Korea rejects or does not respond to its message by then, Kyd said.

Another IAEA spokesman, Hans Meyer, confirmed that there was such a deadline for the agency, but he said the IAEA message to North Korea did not contain any date by which it is to respond.

Meyer said that there was no response from North Korea Thursday afternoon, some 24 hours after the message was sent.

One IAEA observer said that the IAEA is expected to make one more request to North Korea for a special inspection following the board meeting.

If North Korea still refuses to accept a special inspection or fails to respond to its request, the IAEA will discuss referring the issue to the United Nations Security Council in a three-day regular board meeting beginning Feb. 22, the observer said.

He said he was pessimistic about the chances for North Korea to accept a special inspection.

An official at the North Korean Embassy in Vienna, meanwhile, has reportedly said his country could not show "everything" just because the IAEA wants to see it.

Blix decided to conduct a special inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities after consulting with South Korea, the United States, Japan and other IAEA Board of Governors nations, Kyd said Thursday. The special inspections, if carried out, would be the first of their kind ever by the United Nations specialized agency.

The decision came after an IAEA team, making its sixth inspection last week, asked North Korea to accept a visit to two facilities suspected of being storage sites for spent nuclear fuel or nuclear waste in Yongbyon, north of Pyongyang.

North Korea rejected the bid on the ground that the facilities are military installations and have nothing to do with nuclear facilities.

In his three-page message to North Korea, Blix recalled that North Korea had promised to the IAEA that it would open all its nuclear facilities, including unreported ones, to IAEA inspectors, Kyd said.

The Blix message then demanded that North Korea accept a special inspection in accordance with the nuclear safety agreement signed by the IAEA and North Korea last year and the IAEA Charter, he said.

YONHAP: UN Officials Urge Settlement

SK1202062893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0549 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] United Nations, Feb. 11 (YONHAP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) took the first strike at North Korea by demanding a special inspection of suspected nuclear sites, but the final strike is reserved for the U.N. Security Council.

An IAEA special inspection lacks the power of enforcement since it requires approval from the receiving party.

A U.N. Security Council challenge inspection, on the other hand, is a unilateral measure where an inspection team can force its way into North Korea.

If North Korea refuses the IAEA's demand for a special inspection, the agency has no choice but to refer it to the council.

The IAEA needs to submit a report to the Security Council that will be passed on to the general assembly.

At least nine ayes from 15 council members, five permanent and 10 non-permanent, are required to adopt the report as an official agenda item. Once it is adopted, the council subjects it to discussion. Countries directly involved in the issue, in this case North Korea, have a chance to present their case to the council.

Resolutions for sanctions also require approval from nine council members, but permanent members can always abstain.

U.N. sanctions were in name only during the cold war era, when the United States and the Soviet Union used their veto rights to kill the resolutions.

But post-cold war era invited a series of sanctions, including the ones against Libya for refusing to hand over the suspects who blew up Pan Am flight over Lockerbie, against Iraq for invading Kuwait, and against Bosnia-Hercegovina.

But sanctions have procedures. Mediation takes place first, then warnings followed by economic embargoes, no-fly zones and finally military force.

U.N. officials say the best resort for North Korea is to solve the crisis while it is still in the hands of the IAEA, because none of the council members are likely to speak for North Korea.

China, they say, may be reluctant and it will hopefully mediate so that North Korea's nuclear controversy will not go as far as a council resolution.

Call for Inspection Analyzed

SK1202034293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0214 GMT 12 Feb 93

["News analysis" by Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has started a whole new battle between Pyongyang and the international community with its call for a special inspection.

IAEA spokesman David kyd in Vienna on Wednesday said the agency had notified North Korea it wants to conduct a special inspection and expects an answer by early next week. He indicated that the matter would go further, saying a non-regular Board of Governors meeting may be convened to invoke the special inspection procedure and discuss ultimately taking the issue to the U.N. Security Council.

Never before has the IAEA demanded a special inspection or held an extraordinary board meeting specifically to demand one, but the unprecedented move is more symbolism than substance as a special inspection requires ascent of the party to be inspected.

Even if the agency takes the issue to the Security Council, there is no telling how council members will react, especially China, which has repeatedly said that North Korea's acceptance of IAEA inspection was itself enough improvement.

"The IAEA's action will make an important point because it is unprecedented. It will display how serious the problem is and it will create the necessary mood to carry it over to the security council," a Foreign Ministry official said.

The controversy surrounds two suspicious facilities in the Yongbyon complex that IAEA officials say were omitted from North Korea's report to the agency.

Two members from the IAEA ad hoc inspection team stayed behind last September to see the two sites, and IAEA Director-general Hans Blix later said they appeared to be nuclear material storage installations.

An IAEA team inspected North Korea Jan. 26 to Feb. 6 and demanded again to see the sites, but North Korean officials refused, insisting the facilities have nothing to do with nuclear activities.

Suspicions flared because Western intelligence sources claimed North Korea produced more plutonium than it admitted. Pyongyang refused to let past IAEA inspection teams take samples from the core of a nuclear reactor in the complex that are critical to determining the amount of plutonium extraction.

North Korea told the IAEA to take the samples when it changes the rods next month, but analysis will be ready in June or July at the earliest.

The IAEA accused North Korea of reneging on its promise to show all wanted sites to agency officials and notified Pyongyang it demands a special inspection. Article 73 of the Nuclear Safeguards Accord North Korea signed in January last year allows the special inspection when information supplied by a member country is judged insufficient for IAEA inspections.

North Korea is yet to answer on the special inspection, but if its past actions are any indicators, Pyongyang will not submit easily.

Pyongyang accuses the United States, South Korea and the IAEA of scheming to force open even military facilities and does not want to set a precedent of showing any facility on IAEA request, observers here say.

The IAEA moved swiftly, with Blix finishing negotiations with all key board members to call an extraordinary meeting whenever necessary before the regular session Feb. 22-26.

But the agency still has time-consuming procedures to fulfill.

Even if North Korea decides to accept the special inspection, the agency has to agree on all the details such as time, places and inspection members with Pyongyang.

In the meantime, observers here worry that North Korea will earn time to hide the facilities and materials elsewhere.

DPRK Nuclear Development Viewed

SK1202013293 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Feb 93 p 6

[Editorial: "N.K. Refusal of IAEA Probe"]

[Text] North Korea's suspected effort to go nuclear is being brought, again, into the international limelight. Challenged by the North's refusal to give the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] access to two suspected nuclear development projects near Yongbyon, the IAEA is moving to press for a special probe.

Pyongyang has denied the access, claiming that the installations in question are military sites unrelated to any nuclear activities. But IAEA officials say the inspection on the two locations is critical to determining the truth of Pyongyang's nuclear intention. So, the IAEA, which has no power to enforce a special inspection, is looking to the U.N. Security Council to enable it. The two sites are said to contain processing and storage facilities, making their inspection critical to determine the amount of plutonium the North has produced.

So far, the IAEA has never conducted a special inspection anywhere before. Thus, the special probe, if realized, will set a precedent in the global surveillance of nuclear armaments. The international society, determined to safeguard itself against nuclear proliferation, will not let potential threats remain in place.

North Korea refutes the special probe, charging, as one excuse, that the United States is attempting to make use of international nuclear inspections to spy on the North's military facilities. But, its argument holds little water. If the two Yongbyon sites have no nuclear potential, in opposition to the IAEA's suspicions, one finds no reason for Pyongyang to refuse the special inspections.

Such recalcitrance would only heighten suspicions on the North's nuclear ploy. To date, Pyongyang has done enough to keep others wary of its unpredictable adventurism. On that account, it would be wise for Pyongyang to clear the slate of any lingering suspicions about the Yongbyon sites, if in fact it has nothing to warrant the skepticism. Such a move would also help dispel the dubious image of North Korea in the international community.

Pyongyang may, as suspected by some analysts, be using its denial of access to the IAEA to unreported nuclear facilities as a "card" in striking diplomatic deals. But the losses arising from militating against the international norms far outweigh what it could gain from using such a card.

We wonder why the Pyongyang leadership should be so preoccupied with pursuing its nuclear gambits. Pyongyang must realize the stark reality that its nuclear ambitions, true or imaginary, will relentlessly stand in the way of its efforts to induce international cooperation for its economic recovery. Also, nuclear armament, even if realized, would hardly earn what Pyongyang might hope for. Rather, it would prove otherwise. The only choice open for Pyongyang is to remove such impediments.

PRC 'Most Attractive Market' for ROK Investors

SK1202034493 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Feb 93 p 8

[Text] Reflecting the rapid thaw in relations between the two countries, China has emerged as the most attractive market for South Korean investors, outpacing even the United States which had maintained the top position until 1991.

The Ministry of Finance said yesterday that Korea's investment in China totaled $141 million in 171 cases last year, a spectacular rise over the $42.5 million in 69 cases recorded in 1991.

It represents 2.7 times the number of new investments South Korea made in the United States in 1992, though China remained behind in terms of investment amounts.

South Korea's investment in the United States amounted to $346.9 million in 63 cases last year, compared with $395 million in 84 cases in 1991.

The sharp rise in investment in China was largely attributed to the establishment of diplomatic relations between South Korea and China in August 1992, a ministry spokesman said.

A growing number of Korean enterprises see China, with its huge market potential and low-cost labor force, as the most desirable country for investment, he said.

Investment in Hong Kong also increased sharply from $13 million in 19 cases in 1991 to $43.9 million in 38 cases last year.

All in all, the nation's investment in foreign countries came to $1,255 million in 500 cases in 1992, up 11.5 percent in terms of numbers and up 10.4 percent in capital invested from a year earlier.

At the end of 1992, the aggregated overseas investments made by Korea totaled $4,507 million on an outstanding basis, a 33.6 percent rise from a year ago.

In the meantime, investment in the northern countries, including the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Hungary, increased at a rapid pace from $63.7 million in 78 cases in 1991 to $174.4 million in 196 cases last year.

South Korea's investment in Hungary rose from $2.7 million in 1991 to $4.2 million in 1992, and investment in Romania, from $0.2 million to 0.3 million.

In 1992, South Korea made its first investment in Vietnam, Czechoslovakia, Laos, and Cambodia, worth $16.8 million, $6.1 million, $0.3 million, and $1.3 million, respectively.

Investment in the CIS, however, dropped from $17.8 million in six cases in 1991 to $4.2 million in 11 cases last year.

ROK, PRC To Begin Work on Industrial Complex

SK1202074893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0702 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea will begin construction of its industrial complex in China in July or August if the two countries sign a lease next week, the Korea Land Development Corp. (KLDC) said Friday.

The state-run KLDC has pushed for a Korean industrial site in Tianjian since 1990 as part of northern policy, under which the government sought friendly ties with communist and former communist countries. Seoul and Beijing normalized diplomatic relations on Aug. 24 last year.

KLDC discussed the issue with Pi Qiansheng, president of the Tianjin Economic Technological Development Area (TEDA) Corp., early this month and it was decided to sign the contract in Tianjin around Feb. 18, a KLDC official said. Kwon Yong-kak, president of the KLDC, will go to China for the signing early next week, the official said.

KLDC is to select companies for the industrial complex under guidelines drawn up by both sides, and China will screen the choices for compliance with Chinese laws, such as one on pollutants, he said.

Korean firms that will sell their products in third countries, not China or Korea, and can observe Chinese regulations are likely to be selected first.

It was agreed that China would supply 17,000 tons of water a day to the complex. It had wanted to supply 11,800 tons, while KLDC asked for 18,000 tons.

The lease for the 393,000-pyong (1.3 million-square meter) site was cut to between 14.5 and 14 U.S. dollars per square meter from 15 dollars because of the recent economic slump in Korea.

KLDC plans to choose 70-100 companies from 200 hopefuls specializing in textiles, electronics, machinery and food products in March or April, and start the 24.6 billion-won (30.87 million-U.S. dollar) construction project in July or August for completion late next year.

KLDC has allocated 330,000 pyong for factories, 14,000 pyong for support facilities such as banks, shops and apartments, 46,000 pyong for roads and 3,000 pyong for a park.

The industrial complex will be in the center of the TEDA, giving it many advantages geographically because it is equipped with good infrastructure, including a port, roads, a railway and a communications network.

PRC Proposes Venture With ROK Oil Refinery

SK1202034793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0110 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—China has asked Yukong Ltd., Korea's largest oil refiner, to set up a 200 million-U.S.-dollar refinery in Chuhai, Guangdong Province, in a joint venture, industry sources said Friday.

Sources said China proposed a 50-50 joint-venture refinery to process 150,000-200,000 barrels of crude a day and that Yukong, a subsidiary of the Sunkyong Group, is showing an interest.

Guangdong is suffering a shortage of petrochemical products, partly due to its rapid economic growth and partly its lack of oil- refining facilities.

Chuhai Special Economic Zone is not far from oil fields in the South China Sea, where there is a high possibility of additional discoveries, and so has many advantages as a location for an oil refinery.

Yukong sells China petrochemicals refined from Chinese crude, bringing in an average of 20,000 barrels of crude a day last year and shipping out 100 million dollars of oil products.

"The Sunkyong Group did have a plan to establish oil refineries in China," a Sunkyong Group spokesman said, adding that it looked at Chuhai, Shanghai and Dalian as sites but made no decision.

Sunkyong also had a long-term strategy to set up textile and petrochemical plants in China to give a seamless production capability all the way from crude oil to textiles, he said.

Trade Minister Meets PRC Materials Minister

SK1202063993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0500 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—China is to provide South Korea with information on its eighth five-year economic development plan, particularly in fields where Korean businesses hope to participate.

In addition, China has promised to help Korean businesses enter its markets and construction of the Korea business center in Beijing currently under study in Seoul.

Chinese Materials Minister Liu Suinian, visiting South Korea at the invitation of Trade and Industry Minister Han Pong-su, made the pledges here Friday.

The two ministers agreed to exchange information on demand and supply of major materials and on imports and exports in an effort to facilitate trade of such basic materials as steel and chemical products.

Han, explaining the importance of small- and medium-sized companies to the Korean economy, asked Liu to assist Korean firms that still lack business operation capabilities overseas to make a smooth entry into China.

The ministers signed minutes on establishment of a consultative channel of senior working-level officials of the two ministries.

ROK, Japanese Farm Leaders Oppose Rice Opening

SK1202013493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0000 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea, Japan and Taiwan will issue a joint statement opposing liberalization of rice imports at the fifth meeting of the Far Eastern Agricultural Cooperatives Collaboration Council (FEACCC) in Seoul Friday.

The chairmen of the agricultural cooperatives of the three countries, including Han Ho-sun of South Korea, will explain the basic position with regard to rice imports of their countries at a meeting of chiefs of South Korean local agricultural cooperatives.

In their statement, the chairmen say they have decided to hold a joint exhibition of processed foods, host an international seminar on improvement of the agricultural industry and promote agricultural projects and trade among the three countries.

They will then attend a rally to oppose the opening of markets for imported rice and demand that the Uruguay Round of agricultural trade negotiations reflect the needs and conditions of each country. Rice, they say, is the main source of income for farmers of the three countries as well as the staple food of the Asian nations.

The council was formed in Seoul in April 1990 to enhance mutual understanding and cooperation and jointly cope with problems related to the agricultural industries of the three countries.

ROK Told To Pull Boats From Canadian Waters

SK1202034093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0141 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—Canada has informed South Korea that it will revoke Korea's benefits under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) if Korean fishing vessels do not withdraw from the Newfoundland fishing area by April, a government spokesman said Friday.

Ha Song-hwan, deputy fisheries administrator, and Yi Tae-sik, deputy director-general of the Foreign Ministry's International Economic Bureau, visited Canada on Feb. 8-10 for consultation with the Canadian Government.

They were told that unless the Korean vessels withdraw, Canada will restrict the entry and departure of Koreans, abolish GSP benefits for Korean products, and cancel oil field development rights given to Hyundai.

"The sanctions were agreed in a meeting of related-ministries and we do not want further negotiation with Korea," the Canadians were quoted as saying.

The Economic Planning Board, Foreign Ministry, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry and Fisheries Administration are to discuss how to handle the problem.

EC Team To Investigate Dumping of ROK TV's

SK1202100393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0601 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—The European Community team investigating dumping of color televisions is to examine the television factories of Samsung Electronics Co. and Goldstar Co. in Thailand and Turkey in early March, the electronic industries association of Korea said Friday.

If the team finds evidence of dumping, EC imports of televisions from the factories will be stopped, an association spokesman said.

The EC commission started the investigation in Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Turkey, China and South Korea in November last year.

Korean companies submitted an answer to the team on Feb. 1.

The EC commission is to examine color television factories here in June.

Korean electronic companies set up factories in Southeast Asia for low wages and to obtain Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) benefits, but the EC is to investigate thoroughly the lawfulness of regulations on origin and if an illegality is found to slash the benefits.

"In fact color television exports to Europe from Turkey and Thailand is over. They are to be sold at local market or exported to the United States," the spokesman said.

Samsung has color television factories in Turkey and Thailand with a capacity of 200,000 sets a year each, and Goldstar has a factory in Thailand with a capacity of 150,000 sets.

ROK To Hold Aviation Talks With Tunisia, Malta

SK1202074693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0551 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—South Korea will hold aviation talks with Tunisia and Malta next week, and is likely to initial pacts on direct services, Foreign Ministry officials said Friday.

O Haeng-kyom, deputy director-general of international trade at the Foreign Ministry, will be in Tunisia Feb. 15-16 to discuss Korean Air charter flights to the country following U.N. economic sanctions against Libya from April last year.

He will be in Malta Feb. 18-19 to initial a pact on direct route opening that will hopefully gain more entry to ports in Europe countries, officials said.

Swedish Vice Foreign Minister Arrives in Seoul

SK0202101493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0827 GMT 2 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 2 (YONHAP)—Swedish Vice Foreign Minister Lars Nilsson flew into Seoul on part of an Asian swing Tuesday.

Nilsson will meet with Vice Foreign Minister No Chang-hui and other government officials to exchange views on matters of common concern. He will stay until Thursday.

ROK Proposes 'Moderate Increase' in Beef Imports

SK1202042093 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Feb 93 p 9

[Text] Korea proposed a moderate increase in the quota for its beef imports for the three coming years in beef trade talks yesterday, while the United States called for a drastic jump, officials present at the meeting said.

Washington demanded that the initial quota for this year be based on last year's imports amounting to 132,000 tons and increased by 20 percent annually for the coming years.

Seoul proposed 86,000 tons for this year, up 20,000 tons over the quota set for 1992 and 7-8 percent gains for

1994 and 1995. There is room for more imports as it plans to import 120,000 tons of beef this year, irrespective of the quota.

Washington also demanded the expansion of a simultaneous buy-and-sell system in a gradual step for freer access to the Korean markets.

Seoul came closer to the U.S. request, considering allowing department stores and some other big beef dealers to take part in the direct tender system, officials said.

A bone of contention for their three-day negotiations which opened here yesterday is Washington's demand for the liberalization of beef imports by 1997.

Seoul negotiators reaffirmed their longstanding position and just vowed to comply with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade with regard to beef trade.

In the 1990 talks, Koreans vowed either to open the beef markets or honor the GATT by July 1997. They are more inclined to the latter.

The National Livestock Cooperative Federation, the powerful interest group for domestic producers with more than one million members, and its national networks strongly opposed liberalization at least for a decade in their statements.

The liberalization issue impeded progress in the two rounds of previous bilateral talks last year.

Seoul is making efforts to conclude the talks this time in a bid not to hand over the heady trade problems to the next administration which will take office in two weeks.

"We are doing the utmost to solve the matters within the framework that would not damage our domestic livestock industry and distort distribution channels," said Seoul's top negotiator Kim Tong-tae, director general for livestock affairs at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

But some officials did not rule out the possibility of the talks rupturing if Washington continues to stick to its early liberalization demand.

The United States exported over 53,000 tons of beef to Korea, the third largest buyer, last year, dominating 40 percent of the total volume. Its market share stood at 48 percent in terms of value.

The talks will go on till tomorrow.

Similar talks will be held with Australia on Feb. 23-24 and with New Zealand on Feb. 26-27.

DLP Adopts Government Reorganization Plan

SK1202072293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0542 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—The majority Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] on Friday adopted a government reorganization plan that calls for the abolition of the Sports and Youth, and the Energy and Resources Ministries.

The DLP will table legislation based on the plan during the current extraordinary session of the National Assembly, party officials said.

Under the plan, the Sports and Youth Ministry will be absorbed by the Culture Ministry, which will change its name to the Culture and Sports Ministry.

In order to boost the country's industrial competitive strength and maintain closer coordination, the Trade and industry Ministry will absorb the Energy and Resources Ministry. In addition to the current two assistant ministers, it will create one more post, which will be in charge of energy and resources.

Except for political appointees, all officials of the two ministries being abolished will be absorbed by the Ministries of Trade and Industry, and Culture.

The decision came at a meeting of DLP lawmakers and senior party officials, presided over by Executive Chairman Kim Chong-pil.

At the meeting, a number of lawmakers and officials asked that the final decision on the government reorganization be made after the inauguration of Kim Yong-sam as president. They also held the opinion that it was desirable for the Sports and Youth Ministry to be absorbed by the Education Ministry.

The decision was eventually adopted unanimously, after it was agreed that early adoption of the law by the National Assembly was needed if the party was to render its full support for the president's reform programs.

Kim Yong-sam To Announce Chief Secretary

SK0802021993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0143 GMT 8 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 8 (YONHAP)—President-elect Kim Yong-sam will announce his choice for chief presidential secretary within the week and his prime minister, director of National Security Planning [NSP] and head of the Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) just before his inauguration, an aide said Sunday.

Contenders for the top secretary post include Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] Rep. Kim Tok-ryong, Ambassador to Britain Yi Hong-ku and former Rep. Nam Chae-hui, with national constituency Rep. Kang In-sop a new entry.

Reluctance by former Korea University President Kim Chun-yop to accept the prime minister's post is tossing the appointment among Ambassador Yi, Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Kim Sang-ha and Rep. Hwang In-song, chairman of the DLP Policy Committee, according to inside sources.

Competitors for NSP chief are said to include Yi and Ambassador to United States Hyon Hong-chu, who is expected to briefly return to Seoul next week.

The top BAI position may go to Yi Hoi-chang, a former head of the Central Election Management Committee, or to former Prosecutor-General Kim Sok-hwi, they said.

President-elect Kim has selected his Secretariat and will announce the names Wednesday or Thursday, at the latest by end of the week, according to the aide.

He will start making selections for prime minister, BAI and NSP chiefs as soon as this announcement is made, the aide said.

"President-elect Kim has not changed his mind to designate his prime minister just few days before his inauguration (Feb. 25)," he said. "The appointees for the prime minister, NSP and BAI directors are likely to be revealed around Feb. 22."

Kim Yong-sam Amnesty Plan Targets Reconciliation

SK1102013893 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 11 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] President-elect Kim Yong-sam yesterday pledged to grant amnesty to a large number of people, including those imprisoned for political reasons, to create an atmosphere of national reconciliation soon after he takes office Feb. 25.

Kim said his government would grant a "grand" clemency to people, except those jailed for flagrant crimes, Pak Hui-tae, spokesman for the majority Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], said.

The President-elect made these comments when he met with So Yong- hun, former president of the Korea Broadcasting System, and other leaders from the academic and religious circles at DLP headquarters in Yoido.

Kim was quoted as saying that preparatory work to give a "bold and grand" amnesty to all but those imprisoned for brutal crimes is under way by government offices.

So proposed that clemency be granted to "prisoners of conscience" who have been put behind bars for violations of the National Security Law and labor-related laws and antigovernment demonstrations, the DLP spokesman told reporters.

So also urged that schoolteachers dismissed because of their union activities be reinstated.

But President-elect Kim did not give a clearcut answer as to whether steps will be taken in favor of the schoolteachers who are members of the outlawed trade union, Chonkyojo, Pak said.

During the meeting, So conveyed to Kim recommendations from 19 elders from various walks of life, including Cardinal Stephen Kim Su-hwan, which call for amnesty for "political detainees" and reinstatement of the dismissed schoolteachers.

Sunkyong Chairman Named Head of Industry Group

SK1202072093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0505 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 12 (YONHAP)—Sunkyong Group Chairman Choe Chong-hyon replaced Yu Chang-sun as head of the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) in the powerful economic organization's annual general meeting Friday.

Cho Kyu-ha was promoted to vice chairman, succeeding Choe Chang-nak. The heads of four other major economic associations attended the meeting.

Choe said that he agreed with the public view that businesses and businessmen must lead Korea's economic revitalization and show themselves trustworthy.

Sunkyong would continue its efforts to win the license for the second mobile telephone project, he said, adding that the efforts were an independent corporate activity.

Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu told the FKI meeting that the nation was obliged to realize a "new economy" through relaxation of regulations, maximization of corporate initiative and solidarity of economic mainstays.

Direct government protection and support for business were not internationally acceptable and could boomerang, Choe said.

Putting an emphasis on fostering industrial competitiveness, he called for smooth, cooperative ties between large and small companies.

Choe, who is also deputy premier, said that rescuing small firms was not totally up to the government and urged large concerns to have a sense of responsibility for the survival of small businesses.

FKI is not a private interest group any more, and its public function is much more important, the chief economic policymaker said, asking it to lead in setting up a cooperative relationship and fair competition.

Chong Chu-yong's Post-Election Move

932C0061A Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 8 Dec 92 p 5

[By Chief Columnist Son Chin-hyok: "Chong Chu-yong's Next Step"]

[Text] For politicians, moral wrappings like "patriotism" or "the common good" are very important regardless of whatever they do behind the scenes. After all, they must not be caught with their behind-the-scenes immoral conduct. If they are caught, they will lose votes and their popularity will plummet overnight. They will lose their power and in serious cases be even buried forever. Things seem to be different with businessmen, however. It is unnecessary for them to bother about patriotism and the like while doing their business. All there is for them to do is try to make as much money as they can without violating the law.

Thus, morals vary by profession, by individual, and by society. And unlike the law which has its external binding power, morality is something internal, something a person finds strictly in his mind. No one is put in prison for acting against morals; the only consequence he could suffer is such abstract things as criticism by others and lost popularity.

The "Hyundai scandal" that shook the election-year politics has inevitably called Chong Chu-yong's morality into question. Earlier, Chong publicly declared that he had severed all his ties with Hyundai. He was spending not even a single cent of other people's money or any illegally acquired money, he boasted. He went so far as to say that he would contribute the state counterpart fund due to him as a presidential candidate to a scholarship fund. He asked: how could the United People's Party [UPP] spend the taxpayer's money on a political campaign? Chong thus publicly committed himself to "clean politics" and "political reforms."

The scandal, however, instantly knocked the bottom out of his declarations and boasting. For his claim that he had cut his ties with Hyundai and was not relying on Hyundai or anyone else for funding support, was shown that it was not the case. We even began hearing about "money laundering," a thing previously known only of the criminal world.

Nevertheless, it is difficult to immediately decide what impact the Hyundai scandal will have on the presidential election. It may prove to be a blow to candidate Chong, or to the contrary it may win him lots of sympathy votes. Investigations into the scandal have not yet been completed and Chong—with his characteristic combative spirit and indomitable will power—may emerge unscathed from it all.

However, regardless of whether he can endure the ordeals, we cannot but say that the question raised about his morality after he was found having lied has already been engraved into the heads of our people.

More disturbing is the fact that even after the scandal surfaced, he was unable to convincingly disprove the allegations against him and yet kept accusing government authorities of oppression. The question is whether companies affiliated with Hyundai have been engaged in an illegal campaign by mobilizing their organizational, funding and manpower resources. If they have been, the official investigation is justified and not an oppression. If not, it is clearly an oppression. Also, with regard to the issue of a secret fund allegedly raised by Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., the issue is whether the fund was conveyed to the UPP or not. But both the UPP and Hyundai have kept mum on it. Why? The UPP complains "why does the government give only us hard times while it gives the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] a helping hand?" It is a justifiable complaint.

Nevertheless, the two cases—the DLP distribution of watches and clocks to eligible voters as alleged by the UPP and the Hyundai scandal—are in their nature not the sort of things that can be offset against each other.

We know that some people say that Hyundai was built by Chong Chu-yong, that there should be nothing wrong with his spending the money of his own company. Nothing could be more wrong. At a time when the Hyundai Group owes creditors and stockholders 9 trillion won, how could it be Chong Chu-yong's private property?

In a way, Chong Chu-yong is a figure symbolic of the "Korean dream." Born in a poor farm family, he experienced all sorts of hard work including physical labor before making his way up and finally building Korea's No. 1 *chaebol* [industrial conglomerate]. It can very well be said that he is the symbol of dream for our younger generations inspiring them with lofty ambitions.

He is a living example for many young people imbuing them with the belief that they can also become a *chaebol* if they work hard enough and display their creativity. His transformation into a politician was as successful as his business career. No sooner had he gone into politics than he became the president of the third largest party in the parliament. And in a matter of several months, he rose to a presidential candidate rivaling the two Kims [Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung] who each had spent more than 30 years building a political career. In his campaign too, he has been riding the whirlwind with his characteristic speech that may falter but never misses the key point, and with his unique pledges touching the hearts of our people.

One can hardly deny that the Chong Chu-yong success story itself has become a major moral asset and an incentive to our young people, inspiring diligence and creativeness into their hearts and thereby contributing to the development of our nation. However, with the Hyundai scandal casting a cloud over his morality now, can we expect our young people to remain unaffected and carry on their passion for learning from his example?

Basically speaking, morality can be compared to an egg; once it cracks, even in part, it is impossible to put it back to the original state. Once you lie, no one would trust you any more. Once you shirk payment, your credit is gone forever whatever excuse you may have. At the same time, however, morality has an aspect different from an egg: it can be restored and enhanced if one makes efforts through reflection on, apology for, and re-purification of his conduct.

In the face of the Hyundai scandal, if Chong Chu-yong should try to evade the restoration process on his morality and go on like a cracked egg, there will inevitably be a due impact on his election campaign, no matter how much he insists that "for me, there is ordeal but no failure." Now, what step candidate Chong will take in this respect, and in what sort of ritual, remains to be seen.

Rice Import Ban Questioned

Stopping Rice Imports

932C0060A Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 4 Dec 92 p 3

[By reporter O Tae-kyu: "Can We Really Block Rice Imports?"]

[Text] A focal point in the 14th presidential election is, needless to say, the farm community, because the attitude of farmers today is totally different from what it used to be. The biggest factor responsible for the change is the liberalization issue of rice trade. And here is an analysis of that issue.

In fact, the political sphere, until recently, had viewed farm communities only as an "electoral turf of the ruling camp" faithful to the old order of "cities for the opposition/villages for the ruling party," regardless of whatever occurred to the government's purchasing price for rice or to the rice-market opening issue.

However, the 14th general election changed that traditional picture so sweepingly that even a newly coined phrase came up, "rural votes go to the opposition/urban votes to the ruling party." The change was the result of government policies that kept putting farmers on a back seat, and of their concerns for total liberalization of the rice and other farm and marine product markets. This shift can be readily felt in the current campaign rallies in the countryside. There, more and more farmers, demonstrating their new thinking, would say, while withholding their support for a specific candidate: "I will first see what each of those candidates has to say before I decide who is the best for our interests."

Consequently, each presidential campaign is devoting unprecedentedly large energies to the 6 million farm population (of whom the number of eligible voters is estimated at 4 million).

Meanwhile, the Uruguay Round negotiation, earlier speculated to conclude sometime after 1993, gained momentum from the recent U.S.-EC settlement on farm trade and is advancing at a dizzy speed now. In addition, there are persistent reports that Japan—which, like our country, has been known sticking to a position "absolutely against" the opening of its rice market—is shifting to a stance viewing the opening as "inevitable." Thus, faced with dismal prospects in more than one way, farm communities are sinking in an increasingly depressed mood.

The government has, ostensibly, reaffirmed its position "absolutely against the opening of the rice market." However, ministries such as the Economic Planning Board, the Foreign Ministry and the Trade and Industry Ministry are known to maintain, although unofficially, that the opening is inevitable. The Agriculture and Fisheries Ministry is almost alone still opposing it.

Based on a realistic judgement that an anti-liberalization pledge will help attract farm votes, the presidential candidates of the three major parties—the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], the Democratic Party [DP] and the United People's Party [UPP]—are unanimous at least in this issue is concerned. They cry in one voice that the rice market "should never be opened." While outwardly all of them are against the liberalization, a careful look at each party's campaign pledge reveals some subtle differences.

The DLP in its "77-point campaign pledge" singles out rice and vows to oppose its import, while the DP states in its "100-point campaign pledge" that it will "absolutely not allow the imports of key products including rice and beef," thus proposing an expanded scope for an import ban. On the other hand, the UPP campaign pledge does not even refer to the rice issue from the beginning, taking the most negative stance of the three parties over the issue.

Such subtleties, however, are not in evidence in their campaign rallies. They all clamor against the liberalization.

Even UPP candidate Chong Chu-yong whose campaign pledge does not cover the rice issue maintains that "there should be no liberalization of rice and other basic farm trade until our markets develop independent growth potential."

The loudest clamor against the liberalization comes from the campaign of DLP's Kim Yong-sam. He opened his first stumping with a big talk, vowing that if elected, he would do everything possible to block rice imports, putting his presidency on the line if necessary." However, media came up with criticism of his "unrealistic" remark like that. Then, at a debate held on 1 December, he was asked, "You said you would put your presidency on the line if necessary to block the liberalization of the rice market. What would you do if the market opening should really occur?" He answered, backpedaling: "It was strictly an expression I used to stress my firm resolve."

DP candidate Kim Tae-chung, taking advantage to the fullest of his position as the opposition leader and linking the rice issue to failures of the government's agricultural policies, said that "the U.S.-EC settlement that marked a breakthrough in the Uruguay Round negotiation was a shocking development to our farmers already devastated by the cheap farm imports from China." He charged that "while giving lip service to the cause of opposing the rice-market opening, the government has actually been preparing for its opening."

In contrast to the DLP, DP, and UPP candidates, Yi Chong-chan, presidential candidate of the New Korea Party, advocates the opening of the rice market as a realistic course. He shows a straightforward approach to the issue, holding that "the opening of the rice market has been an issue since 1986 and it has now become unavoidable to a certain extent." "It is important," he said, "that we improve the competitiveness of our agriculture in preparation for the liberalization rather than opposing it blindly." After criticizing the anti- liberalization pledges of the three candidates, he put out his plan, saying that "if elected, I will work to improve the competitiveness of our agriculture while slowing down the liberalization by phasing it into three, five, and 10 years."

However rapidly it may advance, it will be after our presidential election that the Uruguay Round negotiation comes to conclusion. This leads to a gloomy outlook that the antiliberalization pledge of the first three presidential candidates will—more likely than any other pledges they have made—prove to be an empty pledge. Whichever of them may be elected, he will likely be exposed to pressures from farmers remembering his campaign speeches, through demonstrations and other mass protests should he fail to live up to his campaign pledge.

ROK Position Weakened

932C0060B Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 3 Dec 92 p 7

[Report: "Japanese Announcement on the Rice Issue Undermines the ROK Position"]

[Text] The ROK position in the Uruguay Round (UR)—currently in its final phase—is now exposed to a threat from a comment made by Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa concerning his country's rice trade issue.

For the moment, the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries interprets the Miyazawa comment as meaning that not only Japan but also the United States and the EC will have to make concessions in the UR negotiation and that if Japan is to decide to open its market and shift to a tariff system, it expects to be granted a period of grace. Anyway, there is no doubt that Japan has firmed up its plan to liberalize rice imports if compelled.

Japan thus made it clear that it will certainly demand and obtain related concessions beforehand if it is forced to open its market in the same way as the United States and the EC did with each other during their protracted negotiations. Tokyo suggests that the tariff rate for the first year will be about 600% to 700% to virtually bar imports, and that it will demand the right to request renegotiation (safeguard provision) in case imports increase precipitously.

Despite the Japanese move to revise its strategy for the UR negotiation, the ROK still holds to its "absolutely no" position in the rice-market opening issue. Internally, however, it is working on a contingency plan dealing with the opening.

The government plan currently under internal study calls for demanding and obtaining concessions so as to get by with barley imports only equivalent in quantity to 6% of the combined total of rice and barley consumed domestically—instead of importing rice and barley separately to the equivalent of 3% of the domestic consumption each in compliance with the "minimum market approach" rule of the Dunkel plan. In doing so, the government will, as the rationale, insist that "the domestic market is glut with rice."

When compelled to open the market, the government will make appeals to rice-exporting nations such as the United States and Australia about domestic difficulties and have them grant a grace period of five years or so and ease tariff cut rates to a 20%-40% level over a period of 10 years.

General Rank Promotions Show Favoritism

932C0067A Taegu MAEIL SINMUN in Korean 21 Dec 92 p 13

[Text] It has been revealed that inequity based on an officer's type of commission which was annoying the military personnel administration in such matters as promotion review still perpetuates uncorrected in spite of the emphasis Defense leaders have been placing on the sound personnel management for the unity of the Armed Forces.

This year's record of the military personnel management which was in effect finalized with the announcement of the list of newly promoted general officers of the ranks of major general and above on the 19th of this month is raising a concern in and out of the military for displaying again favoritism toward service academy graduates, which was singled out as the principal cause for problems such as increasing sense of insecurity within the military, decreasing commitment to service among career military personnel and a rapid increase in early separation rate.

Taking a look at the details of general officer promotion of the second half of the current fiscal year, we observe that, in case of the Army, of 23 general officers of the ranks of major general and above, there are 19 Military Academy graduates as opposed to only a total of four non-academy graduates, i.e., two of Class A commission, one of ROTC commission and one of the medical corps, and there is not a single non-academy graduate among the five newly promoted lieutenant generals.

Last June, when the outcome of officer promotion review for the first half of the current fiscal year was announced, a similarity existed and the concern was raised as to having shown excessive favoritism toward the Military Academy graduates, for non-academy graduates were limited to two, one of Class A commission and one of ROTC commission, out of the 15 newly promoted major and lieutenant generals and not a single non-academy graduate lieutenant general was there among the 15.

Inequity based on an officer's type of commission was particularly evident in the case of promotion to brigadier general announced on the 28th of last month preceding this month's promotion list of the ranks of major general and above, in which there were 36 Military Academy graduates, 77 percent, compared to 11 non-academy graduates, 23 percent, (seven of miscellaneous commission and four of ROTC commission) out of a total of 47 newly promoted brigadier generals.

It was an embarrassment to Defense leaders, who had been trying strenuously to implement an equitable and sound personnel policy, to witness an even worse ratio of promotion to brigadier general between the military academy graduates and the non-academy graduates this time around compared to those of the years 1989 and 1990 in which the Military Academy graduates numbered to 73 and 69 percent respectively.

At present, the number of the Army non-military academy graduate active duty generals is at slightly above 20 percent of the total; particularly in case of lieutenant generals, all but two, one Class A commission and one ROTC graduate, are the Military Academy graduates; which shows quite a contrast to the figures of the United States Army, Navy and Air Force general officers, 60 to 70 percent of whom are ROTC graduates.

The kind of favoritism toward the Military Academy graduates is also noticeable in key assignment of positions, as there is currently not a single non-academy graduate among the chiefs of the bureaus and the offices of the Ministry of Defense with the ranks of major general and above.

Although there is little problem of inequity concerning non-academy graduates within the Air Force and the Navy due to the fact that most of non-academy graduates such as an Officer Candidate School graduate are discharged from active duty at the end of their required period of service because of the characteristics of the duties within these branches of service, there is known to be a deep-rooted friction between the Naval Academy graduates and the Officer Candidate School graduates within the Marine Corps.

In case of the Marine Corps, the number of active duty general officers who are non-naval academy graduates amounts to about 10 percent of the total; in comparison, there are six newly commissioned officers from the Officer Candidate School to every one newly commissioned from the Naval Academy each year.

Defense Minister Choe Se-chang has made it clear that he intends to implement a sound personnel administration procedure as a matter of on-going policy for the unity of the Armed Forces and to uplift its morale when he pointed out that "the equitableness and professionalism had not been put in practice in personnel management, although there had been lip service emphasizing them for some time," during his first monthly meeting after he assumed his office on the 13th of this past February.

Thereupon, the military authorities have taken actions to ensure objectivity and equity in promotion process by (1) adopting the uniform serial number system abandoning the past practice of differential number system as a means of dispelling disharmony within the military having originated from factionalism based on the types of commission and localism, and (2) expanding the tripod review system; which was implemented in 1990, prior to which it was a single body system, as a result of a consideration of complaints about the process; to apply it to general officer promotion review process for the first half of the current fiscal year for the first time.

Defense officials stress that the latest promotion list was the result of the most equitable and objective review thus far, having the tripod review system utilized for it for the first time, as the list was completed by the final review committee selecting those promoted out of a pool of candidates recommended jointly by three independent review boards, Boards A, B, and C, at the conclusion of a separate study of each of the initial eligibles conducted by each board.

Notwithstanding, it was said that the reason why there were less candidates of non-academy graduates compared to those of Academy graduates for promotion to general officers was that there were comparatively greater number of the Academy graduates than the non-academy graduates who had made to the ranks of lieutenant colonel and colonel and most of the non-academy graduates, at the conclusion of promotion reviews for those ranks, had been dropped out of promotion and separated from service despite that the non-academy graduates greatly outnumber the Academy graduates at the time of their commission.

Favoritism in promotion process is also blamed for the recent consecutive rapid annual decreases, by about 100 per year, in the number of career officers of ROTC commission and for the accelerating number of career soldiers having opted for early separation.

The problem becomes plainly obvious when one considers the fact, concerning active duty field grade officers, that more than 50 percent, some 90 plus in number, of the total eligibles of each graduating class of the Military Academy, considered about 180, attain the promotion to colonel, in contrast to the fact that the number of newly commissioned second lieutenants from three service academies, an average of 1,200 of them, amounts to only about four percent of the total newly commissioned second lieutenants each year.

Burma

Khin Nyunt Notes Nobel Laureates' Mission

BK1202101593 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Excerpts] A ceremony marking the completion of Special Doctors Refresher Course No. 4 was held at 1600 today in the Ohndaw Hall in the Central Institute of Public Service Training. Major General Khin Nyunt, chairman of the National Health Committee and secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] attended the ceremony and delivered an address. [passage omitted]

Speaking at the ceremony, Maj. Gen Khin Nyunt said this is the fourth special refresher course for doctors. He hoped that the courses will produce more and more doctors with firm conviction toward the country and the people, who will discharge their national duty properly with new spirit and thinking. He said he believed that the doctors who had completed the course will keep their patriotism alive and dynamic in accordance with the high ideals of the special refresher course for doctors and uphold their conviction on their duty toward nondisintegration of the Union, nondisintegration of national solidarity, and perpetuation of national sovereignty—the three main national causes. He also urged the doctors to promote patriotism and conviction of the three main national causes among the indigenous people who love and respect them. [passage omitted]

Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt said the most important national duty today is to ensure the success of the current National Convention through self-initiative as well as organizing the entire national people. He said it can be noted that some neocolonialist countries and organizations and news agencies under their influence, who cannot bear to see a systematic and stable transformation of Myanmar [Burma] into a new democratic state within the framework of law, are trying to vilify and undermine the National Convention through various means.

The insurgent terrorists, while claiming the National Convention is illegal, spoke of their right to participate in the convention before it was held. When the National Convention was adjourned to allow the delegates to have time to study and to consult with their respective organizations, irresponsible broadcasting stations broadcast false reports claiming that the convention was adjourned because of opposition to the SLORC among the delegates and objection by hundreds of delegates to the demand for a leading role for the Defense Services in national politics.

The illegal so-called parallel government in the jungle formed of exiles, who are living abroad illegally because they dare not face the law, claimed the convention was adjourned because the delegates were not going to do what the SLORC told them to do despite the threats, cautious preparations, and restrictions carried out by the SLORC government. It was found that these fabrications were broadcast by some broadcasting stations which wanted to undermine national solidarity.

Meanwhile, we are again hearing irresponsible broadcasts making much noise about claims of human rights violations and religious prosecution and non-Buddhist minorities being subjected to enforced labor in Myanmar. I would like to inform the veteran doctors of another matter related to this issue. Recently, assorted rightist and leftist insurgents who are in the country on the other side [Thailand] have formed the so-called the National Council of Union of Burma. The main objective of this organization is to undermine and subvert the National Convention. It is also learned that they have drawn up programs to approach the United Nations and affiliated agencies, international governmental organizations, regional bodies, nongovernment organizations, foreign government organizations, political parties abroad, and foreign news agencies in order to apply political pressure on the SLORC and to impose economic sanctions.

Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt said that this insurgent organization has formed the so-called Human Rights Committee and had laid down human rights as its priority program. Moreover, there is a group of Nobel laureates under the auspices of an organization to work for the release of political prisoners and self-administration for ethnic groups in Myanmar. It can be seen that they [insurgents] are resorting to all kinds of contrivances and methods.

As for the SLORC, no matter who tries to obstruct it and destroy it to whatever extent, SLORC will continue to forge ahead with the purpose of a successful National Convention which will lead toward the emergence of an enduring constitution—the national objective of today. [passage omitted]

Delegates Approve Report on Chapter Headings

BK1102040193 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 10 Feb 93

[Text] Panel discussions by the delegates representing national races, public service personnel, and special invitees were held this morning and afternoon in their respective meeting halls in the Kyaikkasan Grounds, Yangon [Rangoon]. The discussions were held to endorse reports on suggestions made by delegates concerning the chapter headings that should be included in the state constitution.

The panel discussion of the representatives of national races was held at 1000 today in Meeting Hall No. 1. U Mahn Ohn Maung of Karen State presided as alternate chairman and U San Tun acted as secretary of the meeting. Following an opening speech by the chairman, chapter headings that should be included in the state constitution compiled by representatives of states and divisions during their panel discussions were submitted. The submission was made by members of the panel of chairmen—U Khin Maung Si of Irrawaddy Division and

U Nai San Shein of Mon State. Convention delegates U Min Lwin of Mandalay Division and U Thein Soe of Shan State presented their suggestions.

Next, the representatives of national races unanimously agreed on chapter headings to be presented at the national convention. The meeting then chose U Maung Maung of Yangon Division and U Sai Hkan Hmat of Northern Shan State as delegates to present the report at the national convention and U Danial Sin Po as an alternate delegate.

The panel discussion of the representatives of public service personnel was held at 1400 today in Meeting Hall No. 8. U Tun Shwe of the Ministry of Labor presided as alternate chairman and U Hla Win acted as secretary of the meeting. A draft of the report on chapter headings of the state constitution to be presented by the public service personnel at the national convention was read by U Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Culture. The meeting adjourned at 1500 after passing a motion to continue the panel discussion on 15 February.

The panel discussion of the representatives of special invitees was held at 1400 today in Meeting Hall No. 2. Dr. Maung Maung Sein, consultant to the Ministry of Health, presided over the meeting as alternate chairman and U Soe Lwin acted as secretary of the meeting. The secretary of the meeting first read out a draft of the report containing suggestions by the representatives on chapter headings of the state constitution. U Chan Lan of Special Region No. 1, Chin State, U Kyaw Myint alias U Win Maung of Namhkam, U Myint Lwin alias U Wan Kweita of Kutkai, and Dr. Tin Tin Hmun, chairman of the Central Burma Maternal and Child Care Association, presented their suggestions.

The panel discussion endorsed the report of the representatives of special invitees and chose U Chan Lan of Special Region No. 1 of Kachin State as a delegate to read the report at the National Convention and U Swe Tin of Northern Shan State Region No. 3 as a reserve delegate. The meeting ended at 1500.

Representatives Appointed To Read Reports

BK1202102193 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] The delegates and members of the panel of chairmen representing political parties held a discussion on approving a report on suggestions made concerning the chapter headings, which should be included in drawing up the national constitution. They held their discussions at Meeting Hall No. 5 at the Kyaikkasan Grounds, Yangon [Rangoon], at 1000.

The report by Shan State Kokang Democratic Party, on suggestions made by delegates concerning the chapter headings to be included in drawing up the constitution, was presented by its representative U Di Khun Kyint alias U Degyon Lwan.

U Saw Daniel presented the Union Kayin League's report on suggestions made by delegates concerning the chapter headings to be included in drawing up the constitution.

The reports were approved by the panel of chairmen. The meeting ended at 1050.

The following delegates representing the political parties were selected and appointed as representative and alternate representative respectively to read a report on suggestions made by delegates concerning the chapter headings to be included in drawing up the constitution: U Aung Shwe and U Lwin, National League for Democracy; U Sai Aik Paung and U Sai Nyunt Lwin, Shan Nationalities League for Democracy; U Tun Yi and U Than Tin, National Unity Party; U Maung Ngwe and U Khun Maung Tote, Union Pa-o National Organization; U Gyan Kyin Kan and U Phu Kwe Hti, Kokang Democracy and Unity Party; U Saw Daniel and U Mahn Tin Maung alias U Mahn Myo Nyunt, Union Kayin League; U Anthony Su alias U La Yaung and U Di Khun Kyint alias Degyon Lwan, Shan State Kokang Democratic Party; U Maung Peing alias U Khin Maung Thein and U Maung Maung Hti, Mro or Khami National Solidarity Organization; U Yaw Aye Hla and U Kyar Harshe, La-hu National Development Party; and U Marcos alias U Sai Lon and U Ngi Paloke, Wa National Development Party.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

No Major Changes To Amendments on Rulers

BK1202065893 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed says there will be no major changes to the Constitutional Amendments bill approved by Parliament recently. The changes sought by the rulers were such matters pertaining to the proposed special court. He said this has been the government's intention—that is not to bring them to the ordinary court.

The prime minister was replying to questions raised by newsmen in Kuala Lumpur. He said the rulers involved in offences will be tried only in the special court and there would be no appeals and no appearings in the lower courts. The sentences will be imposed on errant rulers upon conviction in the special court would be provided for under the normal law of the land. Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said, other provisions in the Constitutional Admendments bill have been accepted by the rulers.

Responding to a question, he said all privileges not gazetted would be withdrawn. He also said the cabinet will decide on the date for the convening of the special session of Parliament to debate the bill returned to Parliament by His Majesty the King [Paramount Ruler] Sultan Azlan Shah.

Mahathir Leaves for Bangladesh, Pakistan

BK1202092093 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0827 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 12 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed left Friday for official visits to Bangladesh and Pakistan. He was accompanied by his wife, Dr. Siti Hasmah Mohd. Ali, and Minister of International Trade and Industry Rafidah Aziz.

Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Abdul Hamid Othman, who left earlier, would be joining Dr. Mahathir on the visits.

The prime minister's delegation included 50 officials, businessmen, and journalists.

His first stop is Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, where he will call on President Abdurrahman Biswas during his three-day stay. The following day, he is scheduled to meet his counterpart Begum Khaleda Zia for talks.

During his visit to Pakistan from Feb 14 to 17, Dr. Mahathir will hold talks with Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on Feb 15 before calling on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan the following day.

Indonesia To Cooperate in Nuclear Research

BK1202070093 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0323 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 12 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia and Indonesia are to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to promote cooperation in nuclear technology research. Malaysia's Minister of Science, Technology and Environment Law Hieng Ding said here Thursday that the draft of the MOU was being finalised.

Law, who is on a week-long visit to Indonesia told Malaysian reporters that the cooperation in nuclear science between the two countries was purely for peaceful applications of nuclear technology with emphasis in the fields of industry, agriculture and medicine.

He met with Indonesian Ministar for Research and Technology B.J. Habibie here today for discussions on the proposed cooperation.

Both countries reached general agreement to cooperate in science and technology, including in the nuclear field, at the second Malaysia-Indonesia Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) here on Monday.

Law said cooperation in the nuclear field would involve Malaysia's Nuclear Energy Unit and the National Atomic Energy Body of Indonesia (BATAN).

Indonesia has three proof wear reactors and Malaysia one, located in Bangi, Selangor state. Malaysia also buys isotopes from Indonesia for practical and research use.

Nuclear technology, which had wide applications, could be used for industrial product testing like detecting defects in rubber gloves as well as improving yields and produce in agriculture and medicine, he said.

Law said Malaysia's energy policy placed nuclear power as the last choice energy source but research on nuclear energy would proceed to keep up with developments in the field.

Should the need arise for us to use this energy in the future we will be ready to enter into the nuclear era, he added.

Minister on Technology Cooperation

BK1202090293 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0802 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 12 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia and Indonesia have agreed to forge cooperation in aeronautics and shipbuilding technology.

Science, Technology, and Environment Minister Law Hieng Ding said Friday, as the first step, Indonesia would train Malaysian students and university graduates in the fields at the Industri Pesawat Terbang Nusantara (IPTN) [Nusantara Aircraft Industry] in Bandung, West Java, and at the shipbuilding firm, P.T. [Company Limited] PAL in Surabaya, East Java.

Cooperation in aeronautics technology was important for Malaysia which had established a committee to study development of the technology, he told reporters before leaving for Batam Island to complete his week-long visit to Indonesia at the invitation of Research and Technology Minister B.J. Habibie.

Law said the Malaysian students undergoing training at IPTN and P.T. PAL would not be charged fees.

He had discussions for almost three hours Thursday with Habibie on cooperation in science and technology.

Joint Information Committee Formed With China

BK1102124493 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0938 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 11 (OANA-BERNAMA)—A joint Malaysia-China information committee was formed Thursday to coordinate co-operation in the field of information and broadcasting.

Information Minister Mohamed Rahmat said the committee would coordinate activities agreed upon in the information agreement signed by the two governments in Beijing last year.

The information agreement was signed by Mohamed when he visited Beijing last year. Chinese Film, Radio, and Television Minister Ai Zhisheng signed for his country.

Co-operation will cover among other things exchange of information and technical know-how in radio, television film and the print media, he told reporters at a joint news conference with Ai at his ministry here.

Mohamed earlier held talks on bilateral co-operation in broadcasting and information with Ai who arrived here Wednesday with his delegation for a week's visit.

Mohamed said the joint committee would be jointly chaired by Information Ministry Secretary-General Yahya Yaacob and China's Radio and TV Ministry, Foreign Affairs [words indistinct] Ma Yuanhe.

He said the committee would soon begin talks on ways to implement the co-operation but the date and venue of its meeting pad not been decided.

On Thursday's discussions, Mohamed said China was keen to have closer co-operation in broadcasting information as she regarded Malaysia as having wide experience and a country which had achieved success in its national development programmes.

The two ministers hoped that existing exchange of information and news like that between BERNAMA [National News Agency of Malaysia] and China's News Agency, XINHUA through Asia vision would be increased.

Mohamed said among new fields of co-operation were exchange of documentary and feature films. In line with this, a Malaysian film festival would be held in Beijing and a Chinese film festival in Kuala Lumpur later this year.

Information Exchange To Expand

BK1202083093 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0631 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 12 (OANA-BERNAMA)—China will expand its information exchange programmes with Malaysia, its Minister of Radio, Film and Television Ai Zhisheng said Friday.

He said his country [words indistinct] an exchange programme in television news with Malaysia through Asia Vision and [words indistinct] broadening it to other fields. "There are lots of things which we can learn from each other," he told newsmen after calling on deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba at his office here.

Ai said China was selecting Malaysian films for the Beijing film festival to be held soon.

China could provide more Chinese television programmes to Malaysia, he said.

However I foresee one problem in this area because the majority of the Malaysian Chinese prefer to watch programmes in Cantonese rather than that in Mandarin which is the main language in China, he said.

Thai Minister Stresses Commitment to Cambodian Peace

BK1202085393 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Defense Minister General Wichit Sukmak has reiterated Thailand's full commitment to peace in Cambodia. Speaking at the 37th meeting of the Thai-Malaysian General Border Committee in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the minister pointed out that, besides the Cambodians themselves, there may be no one who desires peace in Cambodia more than Thailand.

Gen. Wichit said that, as a signatory state, Thailand firmly agreed with and is fully committed to the Paris peace accord. Yet, at this stage it is very unlikely that the Paris agreement will be, or can be, fully implemented. The election may proceed according to plan, but without national reconciliation, and fighting has now resumed between rival factions. The minister said that the next few months will be critical for future peace and stability in Cambodia. He believes that all countries concerned, and ASEAN in particular, must keep a close watch on the situation and exert all their efforts to ensure that developments in Cambodia will not again become an obstacle to peace and prosperity in the Southeast Asian region.

The Thai delegation to the 37th meeting of the Thai-Malaysian General Border Committee included the supreme commander and the Army chief of staff.

General Border Committee Meeting Ends 10 Feb

BK1202120093 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Feb 93 p 6

[By Sufi Yusoff]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Wed.—The 37th Malaysia-Thailand General Border Committee [GBC] meeting today agreed to enhance socioeconomic development to achieve greater economic progress in the common border areas.

GBC Joint Chairman Defence Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak said today the panel also agreed to intensified official visits and holding of more cultural and social activities there.

"A Socioeconomic Development Committee (Sedec) office will also be set up under the Regional Border Committee in Songkhla soon.

"This is to facilitate implementation of socioeconomic projects in the future," he told a press conference at the end of the meeting here today.

Also present was Thai Joint Chairman and Defence Minister General Wichit Sukmak.

Najib said Sedec was responsible for the management and operation of the ferry service between Pengkalan Kubor in Kelantan and Takbai, Thailand, and the lighthouse and transit mark at Takbai.

The meeting also proposed that the joint working groups (JWGs) meet sometime in the middle of this year to discuss proposals on a review of the GBC's future scope.

Najib said the JWGs' proposals might be discussed at next year's GBC meeting in Bangkok.

He said it was important that a review of the GBC's role be carried out to make it more relevant following the laying down of arms by communist terrorists.

He said the GBC had in the past acted as a mechanism to promote cooperation between the two countries' security forces.

Najib said a battalion-level command post exercise involving the Malaysian and Thai armies would be held at the end of the year.

He said the GBC had also agreed to set up a common standard operating procedure between their armies.

On the repatriation of former communist terrorists, Najib said 38 former terrorists and their 50 dependents had gone for the rehabilitation process.

Wichit said about 1,000 former terrorists were still residing in south Thailand.

He hoped more former terrorists would be taken in for rehabilitation in Malaysia.

On reports that the former terrorists had turned their former jungle camps into tourists spots in Thailand, he said the issue was discussed at the meeting.

"It was decided that this was a good way for them to be more independent economically and to help in their self-rehabilitation," he said.

However, he said Thai authorities were monitoring the situation to ensure that these tourist spots were not used to spread communist ideology.

Responding to questions, Wichit said army commanders near the border had been instructed to ensure that Thai soldiers did not enter Malaysia with their arms according to international law. On illegal fishing in the overlapping waters, Najib said operations by the respective navies and marine police had been able to deal with the problem effectively.

Both countries are taking steps to eradicate smuggling along the border and to crack down on piracy in their common waters, he added.

12th Air Exercise With Thailand Launched

BK1102105293 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 10 Feb 93 p 4

[Text] Hat Yai—ASEAN has developed the confidence and military capability to face potential threats as a result of its good bilateral defense arrangements.

Royal Thai Air Force chief Air Marshall Kan Phimanthip said today such developments were also timely, especially in the wake of the United States military pullout from the region.

"We cannot depend on the US to bail us out. We have to unite to maintain regional peace and stability," he said at the opening of the 12th Thai-Malaysia (Thamal) air exercise at the JB Dusit Hotel here.

Kan said although countries friendly to ASEAN would come to the aid of the member countries in times of aggression, he felt it was important that each country develop its arms forces to be able to defend its territory.

In this respect, he said, the Thamal series was important.

Editorial Views 1992 Economic Performance

BK1002150893 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 9 Feb 93 p 10

[Editorial: "Scaling Economic Heights]

[Text] The Malaysian economy has been remarkably resilient, given the persistent lethargy infusing the world's major economic runners. It would be unrealistic, however, to expect the economy to be galloping furiously without some degree of slowing down.

The high economic growth rate we experienced in the past four years will be good only if it is accompanied by stability in prices the labour market and supply of goods and services. We've generally succeeded in maintaining a high level of stability although occasional hiccups do occur, as in dislocation in supply, labour shortages and threats of rising consumer prices, especially of food items. But throughout this period our record has really been enviable.

However, this cannot continue without it placing tremendous pressure on our entire system, as seen in the case of our infrastructure. Malaysia has reached its limits in terms of electricity utilisation, for example, while the increasing number of housing and building projects in the country has created a shortage of local cement. It is therefore reasonable to expect the government to implement policy measures that would sustain the growth but at a less hectic pace, like between six and eight per cent instead of between eight and 10 per cent. It is pragmatic to target for lower growth and achieve the objective rather than continue to stress on unrealistically high growth which is not achievable given the languid economic clime in Europe and America and the slower economic growth in the Asian region.

Some forecasting agencies have been predicting high growth for Malaysia while others said it would be moderate, thereby causing considerable confusion in the country. However, as it turned out, the economy grew very well in the first two quarters of 1992 while it is believed to have slowed down in the third quarter and picked up again in the fourth quarter. The slower pace of economic growth from a high average annual GDP [Gross Domestic Product] growth of more than 8.5 per cent for the last four years has to be expected. The 1992 GDP growth is estimated at around eight per cent which is still one of the highest in the world. The US recorded around 3.4 per cent, Germany 1.2 per cent Britain 0.1 per cent. Malaysia's performance ranks high even within the comparatively strong Asian economies: Taiwan's 1992 GDP growth is expected at around 6.1 per cent, Thailand 7.5 per cent and South Korea five per cent.

While aiming for moderately high growth, the important thing is to ensure stability in prices, the supply of essential as well as industrial items and to work towards expanding the economic infrastructure. Infrastructural support like the building of the light rail transit system and the Sepang international airport which will involve billions of ringgit, the opening up of electricity generation to the private sector and the emphasis on technical and vocational education will enable the country to consolidate and invigorate itself to ensure the stable upward momentum of its growth.

In recent years, there has been considerable diversification of our export destinations. Malaysia's exports to ASEAN countries in 1992 recorded double-digit growth. We should continue to gear our economy towards more regional symbiosis because the Asian region is the fastest growing economic zone in the world, which in turn has created a regional emporium accessible to Asia's total population estimated at more than two billion people.

Singapore

President Hosts State Banquet for Ramos

BK1102163093 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Summary from poor reception] Singapore and the Philippines have expressed interest in enhancing the ASEAN caucus to secure peace, stability, and economic progress. President Wee Kim Wee made the point at the state dinner in honor of the visiting Philippine president, Mr. Fidel Ramos. He noted that the world has now entered a new phase and we are faced with new challenges. For the first time since the end of the second World War, the United States has stopped haviong a permanent military presence in our region. A new regional geopolitical situation will emerge. He said we need to develop a particular pattern of relationship. ASEAN can provide the most to both our countries to promote regional stability.

President Wee also said that the ASEAN Free Trade Area is not going to be merely for inter-regional trade, but also is going to promote investment and trade. Noting that the GATT negotiations have not achieved any conclusion, President Wee said global trade is likely to be more muddied than clear. Therefore, ASEAN will have to boost its collective trade. On bilateral ties, President Wee said Singapore and the Philippines have a broad base to foster the relationship. He said the Philippines is liberalizing and establishing political and economic industries investment. It is now in a better position to compete with other countries for capital and investment. President Wee said Singapore is encouraging its companies to look outward and our priority is in the region.

In his speech, President Ramos said his visit to Singapore marks a sound ASEAN partnership. There are close relations between the Philippines and Singapore and a cordial friendship between the Filipinos and Singaporeans. This has been proven by the Singaporean position as the Philippines' leading trading partner among the ASEAN countries, and the republic's generous assistance to the victims of natural disasters in the Philippines. President Ramos also noted that his country has the advantage in abundant managerial, technical, and manpower availability as well many agricultural resources. Singapore, on the other hand, has a gift in scientific technology, management and finance, and in high-tech industry.

Ramos, Goh Chok Tong Discuss Economic Ties

BK1102152493 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT11 Feb 93

[Summary from poor reception] President Ramos held talks with the prime minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong. They discussed the possibility of furthering bilateral economic cooperation. The prime minister's press secretary said President Ramos outlined the new investment opportunities in the Philippines. He said they discussed Singapore's priority of going regional and the Philippines' desire to attract investment.

Both leaders agreed the visit of President Ramos should encourage further meetings in other areas of cooperation.

Further on Talks

BK1202084493 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0320 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Singapore, Feb 12 (OANA-BERNAMA)—President Fidel Ramos Thursday, proposed the setting up of a Philippines-Singapore joint venture company in aircraft [words indistinct] in ASEAN.

Ramos said ASEAN countries must pursue stronger cooperation in trade and investment, defence, science and technology, labour and people-to-people relations. Briefing the press on the bilateral consultations between Ramos and Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, secretary of the department of press Rodolfo T. Reyes said the talks were "fruitful".

He said Ramos told Goh that the relations should be within the bilateral framework and/or a tri-national arrangement similar to the Singapore-Johor-Riau economic growth triangle.

There also exists triangles of expansion that we can explore based not so much on geographical continuity but on linkages of opportunities, transportation and communications, tourism and cultural and ethnic commonality, Reyes quoted Ramos as saying.

Ramos said all the programmes and activities could be set in motion and managed by a team of officials and experts constituting a Philippines-Singapore joint commission.

Meanwhile, a Singapoce Government spokesman said Ramos and Goh met for 15 minutes before they were joined by their ministers for a delegation meeting. The meetings were devoted to economic issues and exploring the possibilities for further bilateral cooperation, he added.

He said Ramos outlined to Goh the new investment opportunities opening up in the Philippines and Goh explained Singapore's policy of going regional and how that could fit into the Philippine's desire to attract investments.

The two leaders agreed that the visit should encourage further meetings between the ministers of both countries to explore other areas of cooperation.

Officers Hail Joint Military Exercises With Indonesia

BK1102110893 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Feb 93 p 16

[By Felix Soh]

[Text] Joint training between the armed forces of Indonesia and Singapore has resulted not only in personal contacts but also mutual trust and understanding between men of the two sides, said Indonesian Air Vice Marshal Teddy Rusdy yesterday.

Vice Marshal Rusdy, who is the assistant for general planning to the Indonesian Armed Forces commander General Try Sutrisno, was speaking to reporters after receiving one of Singapore's most prestigious medals for cementing ties between the military of the two sides.

"First, we got acquainted; then we developed mutual trust, mutual confidence and mutual understanding," he said.

"Also, since we are operating the same types of aircraft, like the F-5 and the F-16, we shared with each other our techniques and experience."

Agreeing that joint training has contributed towards close and friendly ties between the two armed forces, Singapore's chief of Defence Force, Major General Ng Jui Ping, told the press: "A reflection of our warm ties is the Indonesian agreement to allow the RSAF [Republic of Singapore Air Force] to train in the air space over Sumatera when our aircraft deploy to the Siabu air weapons range.

"And just two months back, General Sutrisno and I launched the development of the air combat manoeuvring range in Pakanbaru, a joint project between Indonesia and Singapore.

"This again speaks volumes of the regard and faith we have in each other."

Maj.Gen. Ng also pointed out that other bilateral exercises between the two sides have been growing from strength to strength over the last few years.

One example is the "Eagle" exercise, which is now a major event involving missile corvettes and many aircraft, he said.

Earlier, Vice Marshal Rusdy was conferred the Meritorious Service Medal (Military) by Defence Minister Dr. Yeo Ning Hong on behalf of the president in a brief but solemn ceremony at the Ministry of Defence which was witnessed by senior government and military officials from both countries.

The award to Vice Marshal Rusdy was for his "enduring contribution in helping to forge excellent ties between the Indonesian Armed Forces and the SAF [Singapore Armed Forces]" which, in turn, enhanced the good relations between Indonesia and Singapore, said the Ministry of Defence.

He was instrumental in the setting up of the Joint Training Committee (JTC) in 1990 to guide the development of bilateral defence projects between the two countries.

"Under his leadership as the pioneer cochairman, the JTC successfully developed the Siabu air weapons range and embarked on the joint development of the air combat manoeuvring range," Mindef [Ministry of Defense] said.

"He has also provided invaluable assistance and support to regular training detachments by the RSAF to Pakanbaru Air Base to use the Siabu air weapons range and training areas."

What of the future? Vice Marshal Rusdy sounded an optimistic note.

"We have brought in some younger officers into the JTC," he told reporters." So, when the older members retire, there will be continuity."

Defense Chief Welcomes Malaysian Joint Committee

BK1102102093 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 11 Feb 93 p 16

[Text] Singapore welcomes a suggestion by the Malaysian Armed Forces chief that a joint committee be set up to strengthen ties between the military of the two countries.

The chief of Defence Force, Major General Ng Jui Ping, said this in response to a question from THE STRAITS

TIMES on whether the proposal made by the outgoing Malaysian chief of Defence Force, General Tan Sri Yaacob Mohamed Zain, last week, will be developed along the same lines as the Joint Training Committee with Indonesia.

"I think Gen. Yaacob's suggestion to have the joint committee is very welcome and officers from both sides are following up on the proposal," he said yesterday after the ceremony to confer the Meritorious Service Medal (Military) on Indonesian Air Vice Marshal Teddy Rusdy.

He added: "Such a joint committee will contribute significantly to enhancing defence cooperation between the two armed forces, particularly if the proposal translates itself into more tangible results like those we have achieved with the Indonesian Armed Forces-SAF [Singapore Armed Forces] Committee."

Gen. Yaacob, who retires from the post of chief of Defence Force in May, had said during his four-day farewell visit here: "We all agreed that there is this special relationship between Singapore and Malaysia but as we grew over the years, we began to drift apart.

"So we thought that we should now sit down and map out the strategy of how best we can rekindle this relationship."

He had also said that the committee will take a few months to set up and will have about six members from each side.

Said Maj. Gen. Ng yesterday: "If such a committee works out well—and there is no reason why it should not—we ought to be able to achieve the things that Gen. Yaacob is talking about."

Government Recognizes Czech, Slovak Republics

BK1102113093 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Singapore has finally recognized the independence and sovereignty of the Czech Republic and Slovak Republic. The Foreign Ministry says the government has also established diplomatic relations with them. Both countries were previously part of Czechoslovakia, which was dissolved last (?month).

Cambodia

Khieu Samphan Answers Sihanouk's 6 Feb Message

BK1202023193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Feb 93

["Letter from His Excellency Khieu Samphan, head of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] and Member of the Supreme National Council [SNC], to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and SNC Chairman"—dated 8 February; read by announcer]

[Text] To: Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman in Beijing.

Your Revered Highness: I have just received your 6 February 1993 message, which was addressed to all SNC members. The supreme significance of your letter has impressed us very much. We have clearly seen your desire that has constantly been dedicated to the nation's honor and destiny as well as the people's sufferings. The people have a firm belief in you, Your Highness, for whom they always have the profoundest respect.

As a signatory to the Paris 23 October 1991 accord and on behalf of the PDK, I request to be permitted to inform you, the prince head of state and SNC chairman, of the following:

1. The most serious situation in our country at present stems from the nonimplementation of the Paris 23 October 1991 accord. Although having signed the accord, the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] have continued their war of aggression in Cambodia from the 14th dry season between 1991 and 1992 till now. This action not only constitutes a gross encroachment upon the cease-fire, but also a violation of the Paris accord, that requires the Yuon to end their war of aggression and occupation of Cambodia and the Cambodian people's incomparable disaster and sufferings and to restore peace and independence to Cambodia.

During this current 15th dry season, the forces of the Yuon and Phnom Penh faction, since November 1992, have openly launched outright offensive attacks that have become well known lately. They have not hesitated to force the people and the recently repatriated refugees to become soldiers serving the Yuon's war of aggression in Cambodia. They have both military and political goals. Militarily, they aim to capture our liberated zones and control Pailin city. They wanted to achieve this objective while the SNC met in Beijing on 28 January 1993. Politically, they intend forcing the PDK to accept the elections to be held in May 1993. This is aimed at rubber stamping the Yuon's constituent assembly and legalizing the Yuon's perpetual occupation of Cambodia.

Nevertheless, the scheme was defeated as before. UNTAC itself reluctantly denounced this military operation against the PDK and publicly announced that it was the most serious violation since the signing of the Paris accord.

As you already know, while negotiating the Paris accord, the PDK together with the other parties of the national resistance movement spearheaded the call for the complete disarming and demobilization of the four Cambodian parties' armed forces. However, under the Hanoi Yuon's order, the Phnom Penh faction rejected the correct proposal raised by all of us in order to promote peace and security during the transition. Now, the reason for its rejection of our Cambodian resistance movement's proposal has become more glaring.

2. The nonimplementation of the Paris accord is also the cause of political terrorism against the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front. It is quite obvious that unofficially, the covert Yuon networks are hidden behind the Phnom Penh faction, further directing works in Cambodia and ordering political assassinations against the opposition parties that do not agree to become satellites of the Yuon Communist Party that has disguised itself as the so-called Cambodian People's Party. Your Highness, please, accept my most deeply affectionate respects.

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 8 February 1993.
[Signed] Khieu Samphan, PDK head and SNC member.

Spokesman: KR Not To Be Allowed To Expand

BK1202140093 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1056 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK February 12—A government spokesman said here on February 9 that the State of Cambodia would not allow the Khmer Rouge [KR] to expand its controlled territory.

General Pan Thai, a former general who quitted from the KPNLF [Khmer People's National Liberation Front] and joined the government of the State of Cambodia, told a press conference that: "If the Khmer Rouge still make offensives against us, we have to fight back in accordance with our self-defense rights." On recent attacks in Battambang Province, the general said: "We have not reached Pailin, we have only captured some villages in the Pailin areas such as Dei Sar and Phnum Kon Damrei because the Khmer Rouge had used these areas to make artillery shell on us.

Khieu Kanharit, advisor to Prime Minister Hun Sen, said: "So far we have found out and seized 100 tons of ammunition, 30 tons of which had been destroyed."

He denied the report that government soldiers had taken weapons back from UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia].

He said: "We only sent letters to UNTAC which disarmed our militia and urged UNTAC to give weapons back to them."

Supreme National Council Meeting Held 10 Feb

BK1202054593 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] The Supreme National Council [SNC] held a meeting from 0900 to 1330 on 10 February.

1. Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, SNC chairman, and chairman of the meeting, gave a speech to open the session.

2. Afterwards, UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] head Mr. Akashi said he was not happy with the present political terrorism in Cambodia and the current offensive attacks on the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK]. Recently, he added, four more FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] party members had been abducted in Battambang Province. Mr. Akashi conceded that UNTAC is incapabile of providing security for various political parties, complaining that the climate of threat and intimidation continues to exist.

3. Prince Norodom Sihanouk said four people had been killed in Pursat Province recently.

4. On the topic of elections, His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, chairman of the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party [BLDP], said that only three months remain before the elections, but a neutral political environment has not yet come into existence. He also spoke about fierce fighting and the forcible drafting of new recruits by the Phnom Penh faction and the issue of foreign forces, meaning the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] aggressors, which remains unresolved. He added that if there is no verification and control of the withdrawal of the Yuon aggressor forces from Cambodia, if there is no control over the five ministries, and if fighting continues to go on, a neutral political environment can never exist, and assassination, intimidation, and political terrorism will continue to surface. H.E. Son Sann disclosed that one of his party members, the 23d victim, had been killed by the Phnom Penh faction's police in Kirivong District of Takeo Province recently. He also asked UNTAC to take action to prevent the Phnom Penh faction from forcing the UN-repatriated Cambodian refugees to go on fighting on various battlefields.

5. Prince Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the FUNCINPEC Party, asked: Where is the neutral political environment if assassinations and political terrorism continue to occur in areas controlled by the Phnom Penh faction, if only one party has exclusive control over everything, if one party tears down the banners of various political parties, and if one party sells out everything and prints currency unchecked.

Concerning the issue of antiques and the temple of Angkor Wat, H.E. Son Sann voiced his opposition to some major powers that had taken sculptures and antiques from museums to exhibit in their countries. He added that no country in the world had given this kind of permission. Australia has reportedly shipped scores of Cambodia's sculptures to that country.

Commenting on this issue, Prince Norodom Sihanouk said he is not despotic, but those major powers should not be in a hurry; they should wait until a new government is formed. The prince continued: A government elected in the present situation will face numerous problems. Now, the PDK has claimed that this government is illegal, so if sculptures are allowed to be shipped abroad, this will result in a more serious complication. The prince asked that this problem should be put to an end.

6. H.E. Khieu Samphan, head of the PDK, said: At present, the absence of a neutral political atmosphere is due to the nonimplementation of the Paris accord. So who has not executed the accord? As H.E. Son Sann already said, the Yuon aggressor forces have not yet been withdrawn from Cambodia; and Prince Norodom Ranariddh shared this view. And the Cambodian masses inside and outside the country, through their petitions, have voiced their concern over the situation concerning the nonimplementation of the Paris accord.

7. Concerning the issues of Cambodia's territorial integrity, foreign settlers, and immigrants, H.E. Son Sann held that the SNC and UNTAC should declare null and void all agreements concluded by the Yuon and Phnom Penh faction. He also demanded that more four-party checkpoints be set up along borders, especially the Cambodian-Yuon border.

H.E. Khieu Samphan pointed out that the Yuon aggressors have not yet removed their forces from Cambodia: The forces have been in hiding within the Phnom Penh puppet army, Yuon advisers have secretly been incorporated within the puppet regime, and now there are over two million old and new Yuon settlers in Cambodia.

The above views clearly show that all recognize that a neutral political environment and security do not exist yet for the organization of elections. What is its cause? It is because the Paris 23 October 1991 accord has not been implemented. In other words:

A. There is no verification and control of the withdrawal of Yuon aggressor forces from Cambodia: Conspicuously, the Yuon aggressor forces are still in the country while the new Yuon aggressor forces continue to flow in. It is these Yuon forces that have commanded the Yuon puppet forces to launch attacks, carry out forcible drafts, force refugees to go fighting, commit all kinds of crimes, and massacre scores of people and political party members.

B. The SNC has not yet been allowed to have any role to play.

C. There is no control over the five ministries, which have been further run by the Yuon and puppets.

That being the case, who can cast his or her ballot? The general public is of the opinion that if such a situation goes on, the elections—which constitute the ultimate goal of the Paris accord—will certainly fail. Who will then be held accountable for the failure? It is UNTAC and the Yuon aggressors and their puppets?

Khieu Samphan Discusses Situation

BK1202095393 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Feb 93

["First" address on current situation made to the 10 February Supreme National Council session in Phnom Penh by head of Democratic Kampuchea Khieu Samphan—read by announcer]

[Text] Respected Samdech [Prince Sihanouk]: Now that our country and people are facing the danger of being wiped out as a nation, the Samdech head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] remains the only symbol representing Cambodia's will for independence and peace and the haven for Cambodian patriots from all political shades and tendencies. The Cambodian people and international community clearly see that the Samdech has always been the one who works to redress the current serious situation resulting from the nonimplementation of the 23 October 1991 Paris accord. For this reason, all along, the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK] has regarded the samdech as the venerated and beloved august leader of our people.

Since the signing of the Paris accords, the PDK has constantly demanded that the samdech's irreplaceable historic role be recognized and respected, and that the SNC and its chairman be accorded appropriate powers and means in accordance with the unanimous aspiration of our people and the letter and spirit of the Paris accords. We have always announced that UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] alone, however great its good will, cannot fulfill its mission without closely cooperating with the SNC which is the sole legal organization and source of authority in Cambodia that must wield necessary powers and means as stipulated by the Paris accords.

Respected Samdech, the SNC session in Beijing on 28 January came to the conclusion that the Cambodian situation was completely hopeless. The session's participants unanimously discovered that there was no neutral political atmosphere at all. This means that the necessary condition required by the Paris accords for the elections to proceed freely and fairly in Cambodia was missing.

Since then the situation has developed, but has there been anything to make us believe the situation will improve? Nothing. On the contrary, since 28 January 1993, the overall situation in Cambodia in all aspects has further deteriorated and become more and more serious:

I. In the military arena, the Yuon [derogatory term for Vietnamese] aggressors and the Phnom Penh faction overtly conducted their 15th dry-season campaign without as much as a hint of secrecy to attack the Democratic Kampuchea forces and other forces of our national resistance movement in Battambang, Siem Reap, and Kompong Thom. As in the past, their military operations were a failure. But this clearly shows that the

Yuon aggressors' war of invasion and occupation against Cambodia has not yet come to an end. Meanwhile, an increasing number of Yuon settlers has gushed into Cambodia on a daily basis.

II. Security-wise, there has been no sign showing that the situation has improved. Recently, six members of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] were arrested and imprisoned by the Phnom Penh faction's police in Battambang and another member was publicly beaten in Kandal Province.

At present, everybody can see that the Yuon secret forces described by His Excellency Yasushi Akashi as operating unofficially are providing administrative and political leadership for the Phnom Penh faction, including that of the five ministries. And this leadership can be found everywhere from Phnom Penh down to the grass roots.

The Phnom Penh faction is merely a subterfuge for the secret networks of the Yuon from Hanoi set up in Cambodia to lead and make decisions on all affairs since the signing of the Paris accords. Through this situation, it becomes more evident that all efforts made by UNTAC to settle the problem piece by piece, and not radically, have failed from the start.

People may wonder why the Yuon and the Phnom Penh regime have overtly launched military operations and why they have stepped up terrorist acts against the people and other political parties, such as FUNCINPEC and the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party. People may think that the Yuon and the Phnom Penh regime realized that they were no longer in control of the situation and consequently intensified their activities in a bid to torpedo the general elections. Is all of this true in reality?

The Yuon and the Phnom Penh regime are happy with the electoral preparations made in the current situation which is generally insecure and bereft of any neutral political atmopshere. This will give a stamp of approval for the Yuon to continue occupying our country forever and give them a free hand at Yuonizing Cambodia in their attempt to turn our country into another Kampuchea Kraom [former Cambodian territory in southern Vietnam]. It is obvious that should the elections take place under such conditions, there will be a constituent assembly and a so-called government no different from the present national assembly and government of the Phnom Penh puppets. There will be only one difference, though, and it will be disastrous for our nation; after the elections this assembly and government will be crowned by UNTAC and the United Nations.

In view of this, UNTAC should be well aware of such a dangerous day. The Cambodian nation will never tire of insisting that it be so. UNTAC must seriously bear its responsibility, for these concerns are the concerns of the entire Cambodian nation and people.

UNTAC knows very well what the great majority of Cambodians, both at home and abroad, will do in such an eventuality. Our compatriots have sent one letter and motion after another to the SNC members, to the chief of UNTAC, to the UN Secretary-General, and to the two cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia expressing deep concern over the fact that the Yuon continue to occupy Cambodia because the Paris accords are not being implemented.

The PDK would like to affirm once again that it is not afraid to firmly adhere to the Paris accords and that it is resolved to do anything so that the Paris accords will be correctly and fully implemented.

The PDK is also confident in the correct and precious stand of the samdech as stated in the message dated 26 January 1993 and addressed to the Cambodian people, and urges anyone who claims to be a friend of the Cambodian people and the great leader of the Cambodian nation to maintain this very significant stand in all its letter and spirit.

The samdech correctly underlined in his 28 January 1993 message the following: Because the present situation in my country is critical, the president of Cambodia must wield full powers like the U.S. President.

The role of the samdech is essential and an ordinary assembly which truly represents the Cambodian nation and people must draft a constitution that hands over the role to the samdech. However, to ensure that this assembly truly represents the Cambodian nation and people it must be elected in a truly neutral political atmosphere and in total security. However, His Excellency Yasushi Akashi himself has admitted that UNTAC cannot protect the offices of political parties, the personnel of political parties, and their residences because there is no cooperation between UNTAC and the SNC. In an interview with The New York Times on 28 January 1993, the UNTAC chief further stressed: In a state of increasing insecurity like now, an election would be nothing but a joke.

Because of all the above reasons, I would like to stress once again the need to implement the Paris accords, especially the following three points:

I. The SNC must be the sole legal organization and source of authority in Cambodia.

II. Withdrawal of all catagories of Yuon forces from Cambodia must be verified.

III. UNTAC must directly control the five areas within the existing administrative system.

Press Communique Issued

BK1202133193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Press communique of the 10 February Supreme National Council session—read by announcer]

[Text] The Supreme National Council [SNC] held its session at the Chan Pavilion at 0900 under the august chairmanship of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the SNC, with the participation of Mr. Yashushi Akashi, special envoy of the UN secretary-general to Cambodia. Representatives of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and that of Indonesia—the cochairman of the Paris conference—as well as a number of observers also attended.

I. Re-examination of the latest developments

Statements were made by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Mr. Akashi, Mr. Khieu Samphan, Mr. Hun Sen, and Mr. Tie Banh.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk said he was delighted to preside over a meeting in Phnom Penh attended by 11 members of the SNC.

Mr. Akashi reported that the voter registration was completed with nearly 4.7 million voters already registered and that 20 parties had registered by 27 January. He also informed the quorum that nearly 300,000 refugees had already been repatriated. Mr. Akashi stated that the military situation at present is quieter than in the past few weeks when a faction launched attacks against another faction. He stressed that any military move or attempt to grab the territory of another faction constitutes a violation of the cease-fire.

Mr. Khieu Samphan explained the stand of his party, and Mr. Hun Sen and Mr. Tie Banh also explained theirs.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, referring to the latest incidents in Siem Reap and Pursat Provinces, appealed to all factions to cooperate in ensuring safety for the Cambodian people.

In his capacity as the moderator of the core group, the U.S. ambassador made a statement at the end of the meeting.

II. The creation of a neutral political atmosphere

A. Terror acts and political initimidation.
B. Political activities and electoral campaign.

Statements were made by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Mr. Akashi, Mr. Son Sann, Mr. Hun Sen, and HRH Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

Mr. Akashi stated that UNTAC achieved some successes in improving the political atmosphere, but added that much remains to be done in order to create a truly neutral political atmosphere leading toward a free and fair election. He stressed the primary responsibility of the local administrative structure regarding public security. He expressed his concerns over the imprisonment of four members of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Indepndent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party in Battambang. Mr. Akashi reported UNTAC's decision that the electoral campaign should be as short as possible to keep the level of tension to a minimum, and informed the session that the period of the campaign will last from 7 April to 18 May inclusive. He also reported that there would be a four-day break before the election day on 27 May. Mr. Akashi assured the quorum that UNTAC would accord all political parties an equal opportunity to use UNTAC's means of publicity and information so that they will be on an equal footing with parties that already are in possession of such means.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk expressed support for the statements of Mr. Akashi.

Mr. Son Sann, Mr. Hun Sen, and HRH Prince Norodom Ranariddh also made their views known.

III. Rehabilitation

Statements were made by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Mr. Akashi.

Referring to Paragraph 20 of Resolution 792, Mr. Akashi reported that a meeting will be held on 25 February 1993 to reexamine the rehabilitation efforts.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk appealed to Cambodian factions that are signatory to the Paris agreement to show to the donor countries their determination to bring liberal democracy to Cambodia, and stressed that he will recognize the results of the elections even if some parties will not recognize them.

IV The preservation of Cambodia's natural resources

A. The implementation of control on the exportation of sawn timber.
B. The drafting of a statement on mineral exploitation and exportation of minerals and gems.

Statements were made by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Mr. Akashi, Mr. Son Sann, Mr. Hor Namhong, Mr. Khieu Samphan, and HRH Prince Norodom Ranariddh.

Pointing out that the 22 September statement cannot be fully implemented until the necessary directive on sawn timber is issued by the SNC, Mr. Akashi urged support for the draft plan of activities.

Mr. Son Sann and HRH Prince Norodom Ranmariddh supported this plan.

Mr. Hor Namhong explained the stand of his faction.

Mr. Khieu Samphan reiterated the stand of his faction, which rejects any ban on or control of timber or wood products.

Mr. Akashi stressed that this plan should be used as a directive for the Technical Consultative Committee, which will decide on a suitable level of the exportation of sawn timber.

The draft plan of activities was supported.

Mr. Akashi proposed the endorsement of the draft statement on mineral exploitation and the exportation of minerals and gems submitted to the SNC session in Beijing on 28 January, and stressed that the Cambodian members should be the ones to make the final decision.

Mr. Khieu Samphan once again expressed his opposition, stating that if anyone really wishes to preserve Cambodia's national interests, he should first consider the issue of restoring Cambodia's national independence and sovereignty by correctly implementing the Paris agreement.

The three other factions expressed support for the statement.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk supported it, stressing that one must refuse to make decision.

The draft statement was adopted.

Mr. Akashi informed the quorum of the current situation of the embargo on petroleum products. He reported that consultations are being made with a country involved in order to resolve the problem once and for all as a number of ad hoc measures have already been implemented.

V. The protection of Cambodia's cultural heritage

Statements were made by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Mr. Akashi, Mr. [name indistinct], Mr. Hor Namhong, Mr. Khieu Sanphan, and Mr. Son Sann.

The amended document on conditions for the creation of an authority to protect national heritage and the resolution on the issuance of a general order to protect cultural heritage were distributed.

Mr. Khieu Samphan expressed his view and voiced opposition.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk stressed the significance of protecting Cambodia's cultural heritage and urged the SNC to adopt the documents.

The quorum adopted these documents.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, following the observation by Mr. Son Sann, said that all foreign countries must wait for the new government if they wish to borrow cultural heritage from Cambodia's museums for exhibition.

VI. The technical consultative committee

A. On land and maritime boundaries.
B. On foreign residents and immigrants.

Statements were made by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Mr. Akashi, Mr. Hor Namhong, Mr. Son Sann, and Mr. Khieu Samphan.

Mr. Akashi asked the meeting's participants to adopt the amended draft of the Technical Consultative Committee dealing with land and maritime boundaries as proposed by UNTAC and the Technical Consultative Committee on 18 November 1992.

Mr. Son Sann expressed his view.

The quorum adopted this amended draft.

Mr. Akashi also proposed to the quorum to adopt the draft of the Technical Consultative Committee dealing with foreign residents and immigrants as submitted to the SNC work session on 10 December 1992.

Mr. Son Sann expressed his view.

Mr. Khieu Samphan stated that the draft should be prepared in a way that it would provide a solution to the most important issue concerning Cambodia's sovereignty and independence, and then voiced his opposition.

The quorum adopted the draft as submitted by UNTAC.

Mitterrand Warns Factions About Disagreements

BK1102160093 Hong Kong AFP in English 1534 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Feb 11 (AFP)—French President Francois Mitterrand warned Cambodia's four factions Thursday not to make a mockery of international efforts to bring peace to Cambodia.

The French president, on a 24-hour visit to try to bring new life to the deadlocked Cambodian peace plan, met with the factions' leaders including Khmer Rouge nominal head Khieu Samphan at the Royal Palace.

"The international community is engaged in a rarely undertaken search for a peace settlement in Cambodia, and the disagreements between the parties must not allow this action to end in ridicule," Mitterrand told them, according to his spokesman.

The United Nations is spending more than two billion dollars to enforce a peace treaty ending the Cambodian civil war, but so far the plan has stalled over Khmer Rouge non-cooperation and the consequent reluctance of the others to go along.

"The peace process is not to be discarded," Mitterrand said.

Urges Moratorium, Ban on Mines

BK1102160693 Hong Kong AFP in English 1544 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Feb 11 (AFP)—French President Francois Mitterrand called Thursday for a moratorium on the trade in anti-personnel mines during a visit to Cambodia, which has the highest per capita amputee population in the world.

Speaking during an official dinner hosted by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, he also called on the United

Nations to revise the 1980 treaty on conventional weapons to ban such mines.

"We have asked the U.N. secretary general to quickly convene an international conference to revise the 1980 treaty on conventional weapons," he said.

Cambodia has as many as four million land mines planted over decades of war, and as a result the world's highest amputee population per capita.

Mitterrand said France has decided not to export such weapons anymore.

"We are very worried by the indiscriminate use of such destructive weapons that forever kill or injure children who suffer the rest of their lives," he said.

French legionnaires are among the U.N. peacekeepers engaged in demining in Cambodia.

But critics say the demining of Cambodia has not gone quickly enough. A statement Thursday signed by 18 non-governmental organizations, primarily representing religious groups, said the demining effort was "wholly inadequate in terms of scale."

It called on the U.N. Security Council to boost U.N. efforts in that area.

The statement also said the Khmer Rouge should be excluded from all attempts at reconciliation and recognized as an insurgency group.

Party Journal Welcomes Mitterrand's Visit

BK1102104593 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 11 Feb 93

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Warmly Welcome His Excellency French President Francois Mitterrand's Official Visit to Cambodia"—date not given]

[Text] February 11, 1993, is the most propitious day that marks the official friendly visit made to Cambodia of a high-level delegation of the French Republic headed by His Excellency President Francois Mitterrand at the invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, father of the Cambodian nation, and chairman of Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC].

This historically significant visit constitutes another proof of the development and strengthening of the relations of bilateral cooperation between Cambodia and France that have been restored following the establishment of the French Embassy to the SNC in November 1991 after they were severed for nearly two decades.

In its important role as the cochairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia and a signatory party to the Paris agreement, not only has the government of the French Republic made an active contribution to the search of peace for the Cambodian people by encouraging the Paris International Conference on Cambodia to proceed continuously until it achieved its ultimate goal—that is, the signing of the Paris agreement on 23 October 1991—but this government has also displayed a most genuine goodwill through successive concrete actions in support of the implementation of the Paris agreement that have enabled it to achieve many positive results.

The French Government has dispatched a great number of French UN peacekeeping personnel, both military and civilian, to Cambodia to help make the implementation of the first and second stages of the Paris agreement a success so as to bring an end to the war that had been going on for more than two decades and to the misery of the Cambodian people with the aim of finding true lasting peace for them—a sacred aspiration of each and everyone of us.

The French Government and French nongovernmental organizations have given huge material and moral aid to the rebirth of the Cambodian people and the rehabilitation of the Cambodian nation, including support in the educational, cultural, health, industrial, communications, radio transmission, and other domains through the provision of all types of materiel and equipment and the exchange of visits and experiences to help Cambodia expand the technical cadres of its various sectors.

At a time when the implementation of the Paris agreement is experiencing difficulties because the Khmer Rouge are playing the role of opposition and obstruction, we hope that the visit of the French President will surely contribute to helping ease the tension and breaking through the deadlock in the implementation of the Paris agreement so that we can reach a peaceful political solution that will lead toward free, correct, and fair elections next May.

We warmly welcome the visit of His Excellency the French president in the Cambodian homeland and are confident that it will sureley contribute greatly to the implementation of the Paris agreement for the sake of an independent, peaceful, neutral, democratic, happy, and prosperous Cambodia. Our people wish this visit a complete success and hope it will bear much fruit. In particular, we hope that the Cambodian-French relations of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation will grow stronger and last forever in the common interest of our two nations and peoples and for the sake of solidarity, cooperation, and social progress in the region, in Southeast Asia, and in the world.

Sihanouk Discusses Problem of 'Recent Illness'

BK1102145893 Hong Kong AFP in English 1335 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Feb 11 (AFP)—Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Thursday that his recent illness in Beijing was genuine and not a pretext to show disapproval of the United Nations or any of the factions in Cambodia.

He told journalists before meeting with visiting French President Francois Mitterrand that he was "really ill, it was a problem with the arteries and blood vessels" and blamed it on too much pate de foie gras. He said until 1991 he had eaten all the things doctors advise against, such as the luxury foie gras. He said he was now on a diet and had lost six kilos (13 pounds)

"I have nothing against the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia. The rival factions in Cambodia argue among themselves but they are correct with me," he added.

Leaders Greet Lao Party Chief on 69th Birthday

BK1102074093 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0429 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK February 11—Cambodian People's Party Chairman Chea Sim and Prime Minister Hun Sen have greeted Khamtai Siphandon, president of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on the occasion of his 69th birthday.

In their separate letters of greetings Cambodian leaders wished Khamtai Siphandon the best of health, longevity and greater success in their noble tasks.

They expressed their belief that the traditional relations of friendship, solidarity and cooperation between Laos and Cambodia would be further strengthened for the interest of the two peoples as well as the people in Southeast Asia.

Indonesia

Malacca Straits Committee Formed With Malaysia

BK0902160793 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 9 Feb 93

[Text] Indonesia and Malaysia will set up a committee in charge of navigation safety in the Straits of Malacca, currently plagued by pirate attacks. Speaking in Jakarta today, Malaysian Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the current situation in the straits requires special attention and the two countries deem it necessary to set up such a committee. Talks on the setting up of the committee will be held in Kuala Lumpur at the end of this month. The Malaysian minister also acknowledged the need for ASEAN countries to jointly safeguard security in the straits.

Meanwhile, the Singapore National Shipping Association, which consists of 180 shipping companies as its members, disclosed that there have been 82 piracy cases in the past two years in the Philip Channel, located about 8 km east of Batam island.

Australian Envoy's Assessment of Ties Viewed

BK1002111993 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 28 Jan 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Indonesia-Australia Relations Considered as a Product of the Flavor of Commendation of 1945"]

[Text] Philip Flood's evaluation of the current Indonesia-Australia relations was considered inspiring due to the results of the flavor of commendation of 1945. It is important to stress that in 1945, relations between the two countries were very cordial and full of enthusiasm. The then Australian community fully and firmly supported Indonesia's struggle for independence.

We do not wish to question further as to what extent the statement was made when the Australian ambassador made the comparison during a press conference which was simultaneously a farewell forum. His four-year tenure has come to an end.

Viewed panoramically, relations between the two neighboring countries were seen as being inconsistent. The article, which appeared previously in the SYDNEY MORNING POST was evaluated by Indonesians as humiliating them and their head of state—inclusive of the broadcasts carried by Radio Australia. Australia's reaction concerning the East Timor issue was evaluated as being latent and explosive—particularly the country's reaction toward the 12 November 1991 Dili incident.

Viewing from the psyco-political aspect, relations between the two countries were temporarily strained. Both sides had no intention of further aggravating the situation—even though they tried to find one another's faults. For example, Australia raised the issue of Indonesia abusing human rights while Indonesia retaliated by questioning Australia concerning the destiny of its aborigines.

Sooner or later, the situation between the two countries was bound to improve. It was observed that there has been a gradual turnabout to normalcy, reflected through a more cordial and cooperative approach toward improving their bilateral relations. Among other things, the political choice by Australian Prime Minister, Paul Keating, to visit Indonesia was considered as successful in an effort to reactivate the rapport [preceeding word in English] between President Suharto of the Republic of Indonesia and the Australian prime minister. The successful visit simultaneously concluded with the signing of several agreements.

Thus, the psycho-political relations, which were once strained, became positive again. As a result, economic cooperation would again be reactivated. Investments, trade and economic assistance would be highlighted. There would be an increase in the flow of people between the two countries—particularly businessmen, tourists and students. People realized that there was a need to seek such opportunities in a neighboring country instead of searching for them in distant nations.

We take heed of such a need through the establishment of the Indonesia-Australia Committee sponsored by Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. This committee employs intellectuals who would enrich such an establishment through bureaucratic endeavors. The committee would serve as a cultural dialogue forum and would be geared with numerous viable activities in various fields. Apart from this, the committee would simultaneously serve as a communications forum.

Given deeper consideration to this effect, the result achieved by Australian Ambassador Philip Flood in Jakarta and his Indonesian counterpart, Sabam Siagian, in Canberra, was that not only bilateral communications were reactivated but also such communications were expedited based on more solid and stronger grounds.

The strong and firm base which was laid down emphasized the mutual desire to acquire more important knowledge of one another's country concerning the varying systems, political culture, and socioeconomic developments.

Awareness of good neighborliness and cooperation could only exist through learning from these differences. Objectively, there is a feeling of sharing a mutual destiny as a result of geographical factors. Subjectively, relations between the two countries are bound to undergo certain setbacks.

We have never, in any way, obstructed the move by Australia Television International, under the management of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation—which acts as a symbol of communications media between the two nations—in its operations to Indonesia. The previous intra-communications were either abolished or restrained. Relations between the two nations were revitalized and further broadened through communications.

Thus, according to our perception, we should expeditiously suggest the need for caveat [preceeding word in English]. This is why there was no guarantee. On the other hand, it is probable that, on account of communications, the current state of relations could experience another downturn.

In trying to alleviate such an undesired occurence, steps should be taken to hold dialogues and communications should be broadened and intensified concerning several issues, including sensitive issues such as basic rights. When the need arises, such dialogues and communications should be advocated to further enhance greater mutual understanding in the effort to instill a gratifying acceptance in facing any predicament.

Other procedures have remained exemplary in the effort to establish mutual respect and avoid being sinister.

Looking at the current quality and degree of development in Indonesia-Australia relations, we acknowledge that everyone involved played their role. In Jakarta, there is Philip Flood, a quiet, unassuming, pleasant-mannered diplomat who is not flamboyant but effective in instituting several cooperation networks in various fields and in ensuring that objectives are achieved. In Canberra, there is a more flamboyant and colorful ambassador who is also efficacious in instilling and fostering understanding among the mass media, social organizations and intellectual groups.

Therefore, it should not be forgotten that both, the Indonesia foreign minister and his Australian counterpart, possess common qualities in personal relations, vision, and acumen.

Relations With Papua New Guinea Viewed

BK1202105393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] During his talks with Papua New Guinean Premier Paias Wingti at Merdeka Palace [Presidential Palace] yesterday, President Suharto reiterated that Indonesia's neighboring countries need not be suspicious about the expansion of ABRI's [Republic of Indonesia Armed Forces) strength. This is because Indonesia has no intention at all to become expansionist and thus poses no threat to neighboring countries. According to the head of state, the expansion in ABRI's capability will be utilized when Indonesia is facing threats from outside.

Likewise, Minister and State Secretary Murdiono told newsmen that on the occasion, President Suharto had also assured his guest that Indonesia's defense and security doctrine is a guarantee that it has no intention of becoming expansionist and poses no threat to neighboring countries. The assurances made by the head of state are probably aimed at further convincing Paias Wingti that Indonesia's stance is always consistent with the principles it adopts.

As we already know, Papua New Guinea, PNG, has signed an agreement on mutual respect, friendship, and cooperation with Indonesia. This was done to wipe out the mutual suspicion that the two countries have for each other.

It is clear that Indonesia will always be consistent in observing the terms of the agreement signed in 1986. Perhaps, President Suharto was also trying to convey Indonesia's positive attitude to the PNG premier during their talks at Merdeka Palace yesterday. This is an important effort because following the signing of the agreement in 1986, relations between the two countries and their peoples continued to develop positively. The improving bilateral relations are marked by the increasing mutual understanding and trust. The exchange of visits and consultative meetings held by senior officials, parliamentarians, and businessmen from the two countries have become more frequent. This momentum should continue to be maintained and stepped up considering that the geographical locality of

PNG is very significant—like a bridge that links all countries in the Southwest Pacific region to those in Southeast Asia. PNG's role and locality becomes more important, especially now that PNG has been accepted into the ASEAN Treaty of Amnity and Cooperation as well as an observer at ASEAN meetings.

PNG itself wishes to develop economic cooperation with its neighbors in Asia, including Indonesia. It is for this purpose that PNG wants to learn more from Indonesia's successs in implementing economic development. The common interest of the two countries should continue to be developed so that closer cooperation could be fostered in the future.

Indonesia's clear assurance that ABRI's expansion in strength does not pose any threat to neighboring countries may later encourage PNG to bring herself closer to Indonesia as the first step to expand her cooperation with other ASEAN countries.

Outgoing Military Chief Leaves for Philippines

BK1102095693 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 29 Jan 93 p 1

[Text] Jakarta, 29 January—General Try Sutrisno, commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia (ABRI), left for the Philippines and Brunei Darussalam on Friday morning to "bid farewell" to his counterparts in the two countries as his tenure as ABRI commander will end soon. According to a report obtained by SUARA PEMBARUAN from the ABRI Information Center, the visits to the two countries are the first of Try Sutrisno's "farewell" visits to the ASEAN countries.

The ABRI commander will be in the two neighboring countries for two days and will return home on 31 January. The armed forces commander is accompanied by Air Force Chief of Staff Marshal Sibun and several staff officers, including Vice Marshal Teddy Rusdy, assistant to the ABRI commander for general planning.

Minister Hails Aircraft Industry Achievements

BK1102104893 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0906 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Jakata, Feb 11 (OANA/ANTARA)—The Universal Maintenance Centre (UMC) of the National Aircraft Industry, IPTN, has been certified by the federal aviation administration (FAA) for its success in the maintenance of aircraft engines.

The certificate was presented by U.S. Ambassador to Indonesia Robert L. Barry who represented the FAA to IPTN President Director B.J. Habibie here Thursday.

Habibie said the FAA gave such an appreciation thanks not only to the institution but especially to good management of qualified human resources in the company. The certificate was expected to encourage the UMC to improve its self-confidence so that it could then improve the quality of their work to compete with foreign companies in the international varket, he said.

"It is not easy to get the certificate. We have to cooperate with our U.S. partner, General Electric, for 11 years to make such a great achievement," said Habibie who is also the state minister for research and technology.

According to the data from the IPTN, after six years of operation, the UMC has succeeded to carry out maintenance programs for some 656 units of engine, consisting of 456 aircraft engines and 200 industrial gas-turbine engines besides 1,874 units of engine components and accessories.

All is the result of UMC's progressive efforts, supported by complete and modern facilities; young, technically well-trained work force; support from original engine manufacturers; and more importantly, thei broad and open domestic market, he said.

The UMC provides services for domestic consumers, including the national flag carrier Garuda Indonesia, Merpati Nusantara Airlines, Pelita Air Service, the Indonesian Armed Forces, the Indonesian SAR [Search and Rescue Agency], and the Indonesian Pilot Training Centre in Curug, West Java.

The services are also made available to foreign companies operating in the country such as Caltex, Total, Arco, Petromer Trend, and Huffco.

According to Habibie, the IPTN planned to produce aircraft with its own designs and engines by 1996 and manufacture aircraft with a jet engines by the year 2006.

He said the plan has been approved by President Suharto and has been discussed with the Parliamentary Commission in charge of Science and Technology.

We have been successful in producing CN 235 since 1981, so we can further go to the next step with comprehensive preparations, he said.

A total of 236 aircraft of the IPTN is operated by the national airline companies at present, consisting of [words indistinct] 15 CN-235 fixed wing aircraft, 106 NBO-105, 21 NAS-330 Puma, NAS-332 Super Puma, 12 Bell-412, and three NAS-117 helicopters.

As many as 57 IPTN planes are operated by foreign consumers.

Philippines

U.S. Embassy Decision on Consultants Reported

HK1202024393 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] The United States Embassy has refused to let seven American consultants working with the Department of Public Works and Highways testify regarding their alleged involvement in anomalies in the rehabilitation project for towns affected by lahar in central Luzon. The U.S. Embassy said any member of the U.S. diplomatic mission in the Philippines is immune from any court hearing. On the other hand, the embassy said the consultants are willing share bits of information in order to clarify the anomaly. The embassy fears the issue might affect the rate of ongoing U.S. support for those affected by calamities in the country.

Congress To Study Report on U.S. Toxic Waste

HK1202102293 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] A group composed of representatives from the Congress Committees on Ecology and Foreign Affairs will conduct an investigation into a report that U.S. forces left toxic waste behind at their former military facilities in the country. This is in line with House Resolution No. 375, submitted by Congressman Ralph Recto, which asked the Lower House to conduct an inquiry into a U.S. Department of Defense report which revealed the existence of the toxic waste. Recto also asked that a fund be set up to finance the group's investigation.

Japan Seeks To Boost Philippine Economy

HK1202061193 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 12 Feb 93 p 7

[Report by Johanna Son]

[Text] Japan wants its investments here to help transform the Philippines into a booming economy, like the "driving force" they had been in the other thriving economies of Asean.

Japanese ambassador to the Philippines, Hirokazu Arai, also said that changes in the local investment climate depended heavily on the Ramos government's reform including those in the power sector.

Arai told a Rotary Club of Manila meeting that Japan would voice on behalf of the Asia Pacific countries their "interest and aspirations" at the Economic Summit Meeting scheduled in Tokyo in July.

President Ramos' state visit to Japan starting March 9 would be a source of "valuable input" into the discussions of the summit, the first in the region after the Cold War, he added.

While Japanese investors in the Philippines remained "cautious" due to a host of reasons, Arai said: "Japanese companies seem generally to welcome the policy orientation of the Ramos administration."

This includes government's drive against crime, liberalization and "opening up" of the economy, and a program to solve the power shortages.

"If the Ramos administration can succeed in achieving its policy objectives, substantial Japanese investment will flow into the country and a make a valuable contribution to the development of the Philippines, as it has done in neighboring Asean countries," Arai said.

Arai said that Japan—with its policy of "thinking and acting" with Asean—would like its investments to do for the Philippines what it had done for Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Japan was the top foreign investor in the Philippines in 1989 and 1990, but "Japanese direct investment (here) has not expanded as expected... Japanese investors basically maintain a cautious attitude," Arai observed.

The reasons are "worries" about political stability and public safety, perceptions that infrastructure development has been "neglected," and the need for more "deregulation in legal and administrative areas and investment initiatives."

Japan is the no. 1 aid donor to the Philippines, giving $650 million in 1990 and of late pouring funds into energy projects. It is also the second biggest trading of the Philippines after the US, with volume of trade reaching $4.1 billion in 1991.

Spelling out his country's view of ties with the Philippines within the framework of a closer relationship with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Arai said: "We truly believe that Japan's assistance can contribute to an economic takeoff."

"However, it is those steps taken by the Philippines that will ultimately serve as the basis for sustained development," Arai added.

He also said the Philippines should improve its absorptive capacity for aid; which he described as "very low," and find ways to increase tax revenues because local resources are "the most reliable source of growth." Aid is expected to be discussed during the Ramos' visit.

Arai allayed suspicions about Japan's larger role in Asia and closer ties with Asean, saying "the political role that Japan intends to play should not be interpreted in terms of power politics."

Arai took a swipe at Western opinions that Japan's economic power will naturally lead it to become a military power. Such ideas had been aired by well-known figures such as Henry Kissinger, but Arai said it "reflects a lack of knowledge of post-war Japan."

He said that Japan for the past 50 years has been dedicated to peace, following "the true desire of the Japanese people based on their remorse over past Japanese actions... I can assure you that Japan has no intention of playing any military role whatsoever."

Agreement Reached on Trade Ties With Singapore

HK1202024193 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] President Fidel V. Ramos and Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong have agreed to improve trade between the two countries. Prior to this, Ramos proposed the formation of a commission that would strengthen cooperation between the Philippines and Singapore.

The chief executive is currently in the second day of state visit discussing not only trade and investments, but also the improvement of defense and security in the region, as well as enhancing the condition of Filipino workers in Singapore. The Philippine delegation is scheduled to meet with high-ranking Singapore officials, as well as businessmen, to discuss joint ventures that can be entered into by the two countries. Ramos left the country yesterday promising to bring back good results from his trip.

29 Government Troops Killed by MNLF

HK1102111393 Hong Kong AFP in English 0739 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Zamboanga, Philippines, Feb 11 (AFP)—Moslem separatist guerrillas massacred a platoon of 29 troops near here in their biggest attack on government forces in years, police said Thursday [11 February].

Two junior officers, 21 enlisted men and six militia members were killed Wednesday in an ambush by about 200 Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) guerrillas in Tuburan, a town on the island of Basilan, the regional police command based here said.

The marines and militiamen were in pursuit of MNLF members who ambushed and killed two marines last Tuesday, Basilan police superintendent Indo Ho said in a report. Military sources said the MNLF, firing from rocky crests on high ground, sprang a "deadly trap" and wiped out the entire platoon.

After the massacre, MNLF guerrillas, some of them as young as 15, stripped the soldiers of weapons, ammunition and personal belongings before fleeing. The police reported no MNLF casualties.

The bodies of the victims were airlifted by helicopter to this southern city where they were taken to two funeral homes.

The military command here has refused to comment on the massacre and posted marines outside the two funeral homes which contained at least 21 coffins.

The MNLF waged a bloody campaign for a separate state in the southern Philippines in the 1970s but their rebellion waned after losing financial support from Arab countries. The MNLF has largely observed a ceasefire with the government since 1986 save for minor sporadic skirmishes.

Basilan, located about 850 kilometers (531 miles) south of Manila, is one of the last strongholds of the MNLF, which has splintered into factions, including "lost commands" engaged in kidnapping for ransom.

President Fidel Ramos has offered to open peace talks with the MNLF, whose leader Nur Misuari is based in Saudi Arabia, but no progress has been made since an exploratory meeting late last year.

In a separate incident, a breakaway faction of the MNLF, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) ambushed a busload of civilians near the southern city of Cotabato on Tuesday on the mistaken assumption that a soldier was on board. Eight people were killed and six others wounded.

Police said that a former MNLF commander, Yakup Ibrahim, based in the southernmost islands of Sulu, was believed responsible for the kidnapping in Isabela of wealthy businessman Luis Biel, his grandson and househelper on Wednesday. Police said they believe Ibrahim took his hostages to a small island after Biel's car was found abandoned in a coastal village. Bloodstains were found in the front seat of the car, police added.

No ransom demand has yet been received for the release of Biel and his grandson.

An American missionary and two Filipino families were kidnapped by Moslem bandits in separate incidents in Basilan last month but all were freed unharmed following negotiations.

The business community in Isabela announced that they would close all stores from Friday to Sunday to protest against the government, the police and the military's failure to stop the spate of kidnappings. Local bankers are also considering joining the protest.

Rebels Intensifying Operations

HK1202032093 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 12 Feb 93 p 11

[Report by Wilfredo G. Reyes]

[Text] The Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) may have already geared up for intensified military operations in the south for three reasons, namely: its perception that Government would not totally implement the Tripoli Agreement, the perceived impasse in Government MNLF talks; and to posture for this month's meeting of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC).

A recent military intelligence report disclosed MNLF chairman Nur Misuari sneaked into the country late last year through the "southern backdoor" via Sabah to meet with his senior field commanders.

During that conference, he reportedly "strongly ordered his men to prepare for two options: peace and war, depending on the outcome of the peace talks."

A senior intelligence officer said the MNLF may only be waiting for the result of the current peace process to decide on which option to select.

However, the confluence of three factors may have already encouraged the secessionists to prepare for tactical military initiatives.

"Misuari promised he would allocate financial support, firearms, ammunition and B40s (rocket launchers) for every MNLF revolutionary command should they decide to resume hostilities," the officer said.

Last Tuesday's serious encounter between Government troops and a still undetermined number of MNLF forces in Kandiis, Basilan seemed to confirm this assessment.

Spot reports reaching Camps Aguinaldo and Crame yesterday disclosed 21 Marines were ambushed by MNLF troops as they were returning from combat patrol.

It was not immediately known if the attackers suffered any casualties.

A municipal official of Tuburan also confirmed the clash and the number of casualties.

The bodies of the slain troopers were flown by helicopter to Zamboanga City, 20 miles north of Basilan, and brought to two funeral parlors in the city.

Tony Enriquez, owner of the La Merced Funeral Homes, said 11 of the slain soldiers were brought to his parlor. The bodies of 10 troopers were also brought to the nearby Villa Funeral Parlor, the manager said.

"Apparently, our men were ambushed," said a marine officer who asked not to be identified.

The incident was the bloodiest government defeat since communist rebels killed 41 soldiers in an ambush, also in Mindanao in February 1992.

It came amid President Fidel Ramos's efforts to forge peace with the country's three insurgent groups—communist insurgents, Muslim guerrillas and right-wing army rebels.

The rebellion by the nation's six million Muslim minority has largely been crushed in the late 1970s and many of its fighters have turned to banditry, kidnapping and other crimes for a living.

Another report indicated the MNLF command has already drawn up a list of potential targets but has, so far, put off actual operations in the hope of successfully negotiating a peaceful settlement with Government.

The same report added there have been no indications, so far, that the MNLF, which did not participate in the Feb. 19, 1990 Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) and in the May 1991 synchronized elections, is set to interfere with the upcoming ARMM elections this March.

As of the end of last year, military estimates pegged MNLF manpower at 15,560 regular members, up by 12.01 percent from the 1991 estimate of 13,690 regulars. Reports indicated the MNLF general headquarters is currently based in Timbangan, Indanan in Sulu.

Nevertheless, Manila has asked for MNLF's assistance in the former's bid to arrest the rising tide of criminality in Sulu and Basilan.

Interior and Local Governments (DILG) Secretary Rafael Alunan III said yesterday he would seek the assistance of the MNLF in the fight against criminal groups in these provinces.

"Some criminals have been hiding behind the skirts of the MNLF. So, I would like to make a distinction between the hostilities of the Government and the MNLF with respect to secession and the problem of criminality," he stressed.

He also lashed out at absentee local officials in Basilan and Sulu, saying he would hold them responsible for the recent rash of crimes in these provinces.

"The problem we have in Basilan as well as in Sulu is due to the fact that the local government officials are unable to control the peace and order situation and I am holding them responsible for that," he said.

"He warned failure of these local government officials to do their job would "compel the National Government to go on the legal offensive against them."

Armed Forces Condemn Massacre

HK1202074393 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] The armed forces has strongly criticized the ambush and massacre of 29 soldiers on Basilan Island two days ago.

Lieutenant General Romeo Zulueta, southern military commander, said the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] has directly violated the cease-fire agreement between them and the government. The soldiers, which included two lieutenants, were walking towards Tuburan to attend a wedding feast. Zulueta believes the wedding invitation was a trap. Region 9 Senior Superintendent Job Mayo said he is on his way to the massacre site.

[Begin Mayo recording] We are now conducting a paraffin test with the casualties to determine whether there indeed was a firefight. [end recording]

Former Communist Does Not See Talks 'This Year'

HK1202064693 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 12 Feb 93 p 12

[Report by Wilfredo G. Reyes]

[Text] Former National Democratic Front (NDF) chief negotiator Satur Ocampo yesterday dashed hopes Government and the NDF would engage in formal talks this year.

He cited as reasons the ensuing impasse barring the second round of exploratory talks and the time to form and operate technical working committees in preparation for formal talks, should the second round of exploratory talks succeed. "When working committees are formed and they produce satisfactory results, then the peace talks will push through," he said. "The formation and work of these committees may take up the rest of the year."

He also cautioned Government the peace process with the Left would bog down this year should the impasse on the second round of exploratory talks continue. "If there is no second round of exploratory talks, magbo-bog down ang peace process [the peace process will bog down]," he said. "Lahat ng pending questions have to be cleared through the second round of exploratory talks. Ang problema kasi nagmamatigasan sa posisyon." [The problem is that they are being stubborn with their positions.]

The NDF, formally represented by its Hague-based negotiator Luis Jalandoni, constantly called for the second round of exploratory talks to be conducted in a "neutral venue," a euphemism for a mutually agreed location outside the Philippines due to the perceived insecure conditions in the country.

The insurgent leadership hinted earlier it might be amenable to holding formal talks with government in the country, provided this is agreed upon during the second round of exploratory talks abroad.

On the other hand, government and the National Unification Commission (NUC) remain adamant. All talks, whether exploratory or formal, should be held in the country.

They have maintained a nonnegotiable stand, since the issue is a domestic problem.

NUC chairperson Haydee Yorac earlier dismissed the insurgent movement's prospects for achieving belligerency since it does not fulfill the requirements for this status, especially in terms of actual control of territory.

Mr Ocampo said government and the NDF encountered another problem, namely, the sequence of talking points.

It will be recalled that the September 1992 Hague Joint Declaration identified four general topics, namely, human rights and international humanitarian law, socioeconomic reforms, political and electoral reforms, and cessation of hostilities and disposition of forces.

"Ang gusto ng NDF, sundan 'yung sequencing na nasa [The NDF wants to follow the sequencing that is in the] Joint Declaration as they were listed," he noted. "Sabi ni Jalandoni sa letter niya (dated Jan. 6) na kailangan sundin 'yung [Jalandoni said in his letter (dated Jan 6) that what must be followed is the] proper sequencing of the four-point agenda. I remember back in the 1986-87 talks, we started with human rights, although gusto ng gubyerno [the government wants] land reform."

Referring to the Ramos administration's quest for a popular, viable amnesty and peace program by the end of the NUC's term on March 16, Mr Ocampo observed: "Mukhang mayroong hint na gusto ng gubyernoi-reverse ang proseso [There seems to be a hint that the government wants to reverse the process]."

The NUC has been conducting consultations with different sectors on the causes of domestic conflict, with the aim of developing a peace constituency and a popularly supported amnesty and peace package.

The insurgent leadership constantly maintained such a package should fall under the last talking point of cessation of hostilities and disposition of forces.

Mr Ocampo said the insurgent leadership is confused on the NUC's mandate, which is limited to producing a popular amnesty and peace program.

Referring to the second round of exploratory talks, he said: "The question is the NUC has only a month left. They have to decide very soon about sending a representative."

It will be recalled Ms Yorae noted it was not the NUC's primary task to engage rebel groups in talks. Asked if the NUC could finish its consultations and come up with a program by March 16, she said: "We are very much on schedule... we're not running out of time."

Mr Ocampo suported the government and the NDF's position to impose a news blackout on the second round of exploratory talks, pending their conclusion.

"May [There is] mutual agreement between (Tarlac Rep.) Jose Yap and Luis Jalandoni (wherein) they expressed the possibility of holding a second round of exploratory talks.

"There will be no publicity prior to it," he said. "Para walang mapapahiya, hindi nila ipu-publicize yung event [So that no one will be humiliated, they will not publicize the event.] They will just inform you (the media) when results are achieved. Kung may resulta, saka nila ia-announce [If there are results, that is when they will announce them]."

Mining Industry Posts 5.13 Percent Growth for 1992

HK1202062593 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 12 Feb 93 p 4

[Report by Marie-Christine G. Tang]

[Text] The gross value added (GVA) on the mining and quarrying industry expanded 5.13 percent in real terms in 1992, a turnaround from the 2.89 percent contraction recorded the previous year. Accounting for only 4.55 percent of total industrial output, the industry nonetheless provided a much needed boost to the industrial sector.

Data from the National Statistical Coordination Board show the increase can be traced mainly to a new entry—crude oil production—amounting to P948 million [Philippine peso] million in 1992. Commercial production of crude oil started only last May with the operation of West Linapacan.

Also contributing to the sector's hike are other nonmetallic mining (14 percent), other metallic mining (10 percent) and nickel mining (3 percent). These three industries made up 17.13 percent of total sectoral real output in 1992.

The leading mining industries, i.e., gold and copper, suffered setbacks during the year due to production shortfalls.

Gold production, which accounts for nearly 40 percent of total GVA in mining and quarrying performed poorly especially in the last quarter of 1992. While gains were recorded in the first three quarters, a 30.05 percent drop in the fourth quarter spelled doom for the industry.

The industry is said to have suffered from unfavorable world gold prices. Last year saw Benguet Corporation closing its Baco mine in Baguio City due to unprofitable operations. Thus, in contrast to the positive growth registered in 1991, gold production decreased by 7.51 percent last year. This translates to a P365 million loss for the sector for the entire year.

Copper

Copper mining, on the other hand, was likewise affected by low production and damages resulting from the Mt. Pinatubo eruption. The industry lost some P174 million (8.02 percent) with production totalling P2.0 billion. Nevertheless, this is an improvement over the previous year's 16.70 percent contraction.

Copper mining managed to grow only during the second semester of the year after posting continuous quarterly declines from 1991 to the first half of 1992.

The other industries that posted cutbacks in production include chromium mining (27.74 percent) and stone quarrying, clay, and sandpits (2.4 percent).

Growth in the mining industry this year will depend on improvements in world metal prices. Recovery in the industrialized countries and a more favorable exchange rate should likewise augur well for the industry.

Gross Value Added in Mining and Quarrying

In million pesos at constant 1985 prices

Industry/Industry Group	1992	1991	1990
Copper mining	1,996	2,170	2,605
Gold mining	4,497	4,862	4,800
Chromium mining	112	155	230
Nickel mining	103	100	108
Other metallic mining	88	80	94
Crude oil	948	—	—
Stone quarrying, clay and sandpits	1,830	1,875	1,844
Other nonmetallic	1,748	1,528	1,410
Gross Value Added in Mining and Quarrying	11,322	10,770	11,091

Source: National Statistical Coordination Board

Thailand

Dalai Lama To Attend Nobel Laureate Gathering

Visit Confirmed

BK1202015593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Feb 93 pp 1, 3

[Text] The Office of the Dalai Lama in Dharamsala, India has confirmed that the Tibetan leader will join Nobel peace laureates in their attempt to secure the release of Burmese dissident Aung San Suu Kyi.

But the office said that the Dalai Lama will be in Thailand for little more than 24 hours. He is scheduled to arrive in Bangkok from New Delhi next Tuesday afternoon and to leave early Wednesday evening. Earlier plans had him staying until Thursday.

The confirmation of the visit emerged in the wake of China's second call on Thailand to reject the visit and Thai Prime Minister Chuan Likphai's defence of the decision to allow entry.

The Dalai Lama "is very pleased to contribute to the efforts of fellow Nobel laureates in the campaign for human rights, peace, non-violence and democratic development in the Union of Burma as well as the release of Aung San Suu Kyi and of all other political prisoners," his assistant said in a letter to Mahidon University Rector Dr Pradit Charoenthaitawee.

"We regret very much that His Holiness is unable to attend the whole programme of the Nobel Laureates' Mission," said the letter.

"Owing to the last-minute changes concerning His Holiness' visit to Thailand, there are a number of engagements here in India on the days following His Holiness' return from Thailand that cannot be changed on such short notice," it added.

China's second warning, reported from Peking yesterday afternoon came as Prime Minister Chuan pointed out that the situation has changed and that Thailand, as a Buddhist country, could not refuse entry to a highranking, widely-respected Buddhist monk.

The Dalai Lama will join six other Nobel Peace Prize laureates who will be in Thailand for five days from next Tuesday.

According to an AFP report, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesman Wu Jianmin told yesterday's news briefing in Peking that "we hope Thailand will reject the Dalai Lama's visit."

"The Dalai Lama is not a purely religious figure. He has been engaging in political acts of splitting the motherland for a long time," the spokesman added.

A similarly-worded call was issued in Peking on Wednesday.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri yesterday morning stressed that the Dalai Lama's forthcoming visit was "a different matter" from Thai-Chinnese relations, which he maintained would improve.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Sakthip Krairoek said Thailand had anticipated a protest from China. But he pointed out that Thai-Chinese relations were on solid ground and should not be affected by "a small matter."

Bowing to China, Thailand in 1987 and 1990 barred the Tibetan leader's entry into the country.

An informed observer close to those earlier decisions said Thailand at that time needed China's clout to press Vietnam for an end to the Cambodian war. Vietnam unilaterally withdrew its troops from Cambodia in September 1989 but the peace agreement was not signed until October 1991.

Foreign Minister Prasong stressed that the Dalai Lama's visit was not political. He also emphasised that it was not Thailand's policy to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries.

Prime Minister Chuan said there was no need for Thailand to explain to China its decision to allow the Dalai Lama into the country.

"There probably will be no need to explain because it is our right (to decide) in an internal affair" the Prime Minister said, when asked how Thailand would explain that the Dalai Lama's visit is non-political.

"But we don't want anyone to cause problems," he added.

"The Dalai Lama is a generally-respected religious figure. He probably will not cause problems," the Prime Minister said. "Therefore we must be allowed our right to abide by our foreign ministry's policy in any decision-making."

Despite China's apparent displeasure, the prime minister said he did not think Thai-Chinese relations would be affected.

He noted that China previously "did not agree" with the Dalai Lama coming to Thalland. But, the Prime Minister went on, "the situation has changed. China will have to understand."

"We are a Buddhist country. We should not bar the entry of a Buddhist monk unless he is coming to cause trouble," he added.

The Prime minister brushed off suggestions that China was trying to intimidate Thailand, saying "I don't think it has gone that far."

But Sinologist Khian Thirawit maintained that the government should explain and establish an understanding with Chinese authorities on the matter.

He also cautioned any national leader against receiving the Tibetan leader, saying this could create misunderstandings within the Chinese leadership.

Dr Khian made the points in a radio interview with FM 100.5, a summary of which was carried by the THAI NEWS AGENCY.

He said he supported the Thai Government's decision to allow the Dalai Lama's entry into the country because the situation in Tibet was now "normal".

The governments of former Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon and Former Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan in 1987 and 1990 barred his entry because the situation in Tibet at those times was "not normal," he added.

The Prime Minister's secretary-general Thawat Wichaisit, quoted Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan as saying that Thailand had done the right thing as a Buddhist country.

He reportedly argued that if Thailand were to forbid the Dalai Lama's entry, it would have to answer questions from the country's Buddhists.

The Dalai Lama and an entourage of five will stay with the Supreme Patriarch at Wat Bowonniwet during their visit to Thailand, organisers said.

Meanwhile, Mahidon University yesterday confirmed that the Dalai Lama would not participate in a press conference to be given by Nobel laureates on Friday February 19.

It was not explained why Ross Daniels, who is participating as Amnesty International's representative, is also not scheduled to join the press conference.

In a related development Archbishop Desmond Tutu has reassured Foreign Minister Prasong that Nobel Peace laureates had no intention of interfering in Thai-Burmese relations or of criticising the Thai Government.

In a letter to the minister that was shown to reporters, the anti-apartheid activist pointed out that the Thai Government, by allowing the mission, would be seen as one that gives high priority to human rights.

He also noted that Thailand as an emerging democracy "has the potential to be a leader in the human rights issue in the Far East."

The 1984 Nobel peace laureate affirmed that it was his concern for Aung San Suu Kyi and the situation in Burma that had persuaded him to join the mission, which is organised by the Montreal-based International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development (ICHRDD).

Minister Comments on Decision

BK1102140393 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Asked to comment on the Chinese Government's warning against the Dalai Lama's upcoming visit to Thailand, Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri told reporters at the Foreign Ministry this afternoon that Thailand is an open country with freedom under a democratic system. The Dalai Lama is to attend a meeting on human rights in Thailand between 16 to 18 February. Prasong said it is normal for Thailand to allow any person to enter the country. The Dalai Lama is a respected person and acceptable in the world community because he has won the Nobel prize for peace. He said there should be no political problem. The Dalai Lama should know what he can and can not do during his visit to Thailand. It is believed he would not interfere in the political affairs of any country.

Prasong said that Thailand's relations with neighboring countries, especially with China, are always good. It takes into account future relationship with those countries. Thailand is allowing the Dalai Lama to enter the country on a personal basis, and this has nothing to do with Thailand's political stand. He reiterated that Thailand will not interfere in the internal affairs of neighboring countries.

Premier Plays Down PRC Warning

BK1102143493 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Answering newsmen on the controversy over the Dalai Lama's visit to Thailand, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said the decision on this must be based on Foreign Ministry policy. Concerning the protest by China, he said he did not look at it as a warning and that Thailand has nothing to explain. He said it is within the rights of Thailand. Anyway, he does not want anyone to create trouble.

[Begin recording] [Chuan, in progress] ...a monk respected worldwide. So I do not think that he would create any trouble. We are adhering to the Foreign Ministry's policy. We have empowered the Foreign Minitry to make a decision.

[Unidentified reporter] China would be unhappy if we allowed the Dalai Lama to visit and this could affect relations between Thailand and China.

[Chuan] I don't think that relations will be affected. The situation has changed; I believe China also understands this. [end recording]

BANGKOK POST Warns PRC on Visit

BK1202014593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Feb 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Dalai Lama's Visit is a Thai Affair, Not China's"]

[Text] Bangkok and Peking have long enjoyed good relations, except for a relatively brief hiatus during the extreme right-wing regime of Thanin Kraiwichien in late 1976 and 1977. However, at three-year intervals since 1987 ripples have occurred. Each time these ripples have been caused by China's objections to a pending visit here, or the granting of a Thai visa, to the Dalai Lama. Pressure in the form of strongly-worded statements has come from Peking and the clout of the Chinese diplomatic presence here has let itself be known.

The Chinese "acquisition" of Tibet and the flight of its spiritual leader to India in the 1950's are documented facts of history and no visit by a Buddhist priest to Thailand, even a Nobel Prizewinning one, is going to change that. Why, then, does China regard the issue as such a sensitive one? Sensitive enough, in fact, to warrant trying to interfere in the internal affairs of Thailand.

This country has never been overly antagonistic towards Peking even during the years of the Chinese Communist Party's support of the Thai communist insurgency. And at a time when Peking was being widely condemned over the Tiananmen Square massacre in June, 1989, then Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan risked international opprobrium by visiting China to improve relations between the two countries.

Granting an entry visa to the Dalai Lama is the sole sovereign right of the Thai Government and one that should be respected by its friends. This most certainly includes China. The visit is a brief one and the Dalai Lama will be accompanied by several Nobel laureates who are held in high regard by Peking.

It is no secret that while Thailand recognises Peking's "One China" policy it also maintains informal contacts with Taiwan. Therefore in a similar application of logic, a decision to allow a visit by the Dalai Lama should not be construed as being an offence to China, nor could it be interpreted as Thailand's derecognition of the "One China" policy.

In 1987 and again in 1990, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs produced laughably improbable—and highly embarrassing—excuses and indulged in buckpassing exercises in attempts to defend decisions to bar the Dalai Lama's visit. One excuse which provoked heavy criticism at the time was a supposed inability to provide adequate security for the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader.

This time there is no possible reason to prohibit the entry of the Dalai Lama and the Foreign Minister and his deputy haven't expressed the slightest reservation about the visit. Nor has anyone else of consequence but, of course, the roar of disapproval is still being heard from Peking. This time, though, no one is caving in.

This demonstration of what would once have been considered political courage is a welcome sign that Thailand's foreign policy is finally getting back on track and becoming independent of influence or manipulation by any of the larger powers.

It follows a lamentable period which saw the Foreign Ministry's role as the nation's primary foreign policy maker eroded because of a lack of flexibility, decisiveness, leadership or willingness to take new initiatives. The apparent reversal of this decline, which was accompanied by a fear of doing anything that might upset our bigger brothers, is welcome indeed.

Surely it is not too much to expect China—or any other great nation, for that matter—to abide by the principle of sovereign independence and noninterference in the internal affairs of its friends.

Thai Textile Group To Visit U.S. 15-19 Feb

BK1002072093 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 10 Feb 93

[Text] The Cabinet yesterday approved a proposal by the Ministry of Commerce to send a Thai delegation for talks with the U.S. on textiles. The director general or deputy director general of the Department of Foreign Trade is assigned to lead the delegation and authorized to sign a memorandum of understanding if an agreement can be reached. The talks will be held in Washington D.C. during February 15 to 19 focusing on U.S. import quotas of man-made fiber twill and satin fabric.

Thailand has also held talks with Finland on import of Thai textiles focusing on men's and boy's woven shirts of cotton and man-made fibers. Finland has agreed not to impose quotas on those items. The talks took place in Bangkok late last month.

Security Chief Says UNTAC Mission Has 'Failed'

BK1202021593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Feb 93 p 1

[Text] The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) has failed in its mission to effect national reconciliation in Cambodia ahead of the legislative elections.

This is the view of the Secretary-General of the National Security Council Gen Charan Kunlawanit, the first senior Thai official to criticise UNTAC's performance openly.

Gen Charan says UNTAC's failure has fostered an atmosphere of animosity. It is a pity national reconciliation cannot be achieved in Cambodia, he says, but UNTAC has not tried its hardest to achieve its aims.

Democratic Kampuchea's decision not to participate in the legislative elections, to be held by the end of May, is "comprehensible".

The Khmer Rouge may feel that UNTAC has not fulfilled its obligations in Cambodia, especially its duty to verify whether foreign forces exist in the country, he says.

The issue of foreign forces in the country has not been tackled seriously by UNTAC, and this has caused dissatisfaction among other factions, who believe Vietnamese forces are still hiding in the country.

During their last meeting, former Cambodian premier Son Sann told him there are still Vietnamese forces in the country and UNTAC has not succeeded in removing doubts.

"The former premier tells me he has raised the issue with UNTAC, but nothing has happened."

When UNTAC is informed of possible cases of houses being occulpied by Vietnamese soldiers, it despatches troops to the site for verification.

But Gen Charan quotes Son Sann as saying that UNTAC troops withdraw without further investigation when they are informed by a house member that the allegations are groundless and there are no Vietnamese soldiers in the house.

Gen Charan says that when UNTAC told Son Sann it could not find any Vietnamese soldiers at the site, Son Sann sent his own men to the house and found that the occupiers had already left.

"These are his (Son Sann's) words and not mine," says the general, adding that he cannot treat the issue lightly because Mr Son Sann has gained a great deal of respect from outsiders.

Thailand wants "eternal peace" in Cambodia. However, he is pessimistic that such a thing is possible in the near future as it is clear that UNTAC's failure to achieve national reconciliation has worsened the situation.

"We don't know whether the Khmer Rouge's claims are real or bogus, but UNTAC's main role is to make its verification, as Vietnam has also said that its forces have been withdrawn completely.

"In the Paris peace agreement there are words about verification, but it seems that UNTAC has not carried out a full verification. What UNTAC tries to do is to set up its checkpoints, and the outcome is predictable."

Gen Charan doubts the effectiveness of UNTAC measures in setting up checkpoints. The situation in Cambodia is very different from Europe, where the main communication is by road. Measures written into the agreement have been blindly followed by UNTAC's members without considering that circumstances in Cambodia are very different from Europe.

In the current situation it is likely that the Khmer Rouge will not join the legislative elections. He predicts that armed struggle will continue in some areas after the election.

However, he does not think that fighting after the election will escalate into civil war.

ASEAN countries are trying to salvage the situation by proposing a presidential election so that the political impasse can be got over.

Prasong Notes Effects of Cambodian Gem Export Ban

BK1102150193 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] The foreign minister has expressed concern for Thai gem mining firms as a result of the decision of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia banning gem exports from Cambodia.

Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri admitted that major gem traders from Thailand would definitely be affected by the decision, but Thai gems miners and small-scale traders are allowed to carry on their operations. Prasong said he believed the measure would be temporary, and that there would be changes once the election has been held in Cambodia.

Cabinet Approves Lao Border Monitoring Operation

BK1002061493 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 10 Feb 93

[Text] Following a meeting of a joint Thai-Lao committee on border peace monitoring in December 1992, the Cabinet has approved a Defense Ministry's proposal on the setting up of offices concerned to be responsible for the issue. The meeting was held in Vientiane on 15 December 1992, in which the Thai delegation was led by the supreme commander, Air Chief Marshal Woranat Aphichari and the Lao side by that country's defense minister. The meeting discussed cooperation on peace monitoring along the Thai-Lao border, Lao refugees, and drug problem.

The Cabinet yesterday assigned the Interior Ministry to be responsible for the setting up of a joint committee to monitor peace at provincial level as well as crime suppression along the Thai-Lao border. The ministry also has to solve problems on displaced Lao people.

Meanwhile, the defense minister will be responsible for the setting up of joint military committee and its office as well as medical and academic cooperation between the two countries.

The Cabinet also assigned the Office of Narcotics Control Board, or ONCB, to be responsible for drug problems at the border and asked the Budget Bureau to provide budgets for all the operation.

Joint Border Delegation Meets in Malaysia

BK1102090993 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] The minister of defense, General Wichit Sukmak, led a Thai delegation to the 37th meeting of the Thai-Malaysian General Border Committee in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. A joint press release was issued at the conclusion of the meeting yesterday afternoon. The minister arrived back in Bangkok later in the evening. Radio Thailand News Correspondent Amphon Samoson reports:

[Begin Amphon recording] The 37th meeting of the Thai-Malaysian General Border Committee noted with satisfaction the successful [words indistinct] throughout the period under review—1 February to 31 December 1992. The meeting noted with satisfaction the progress made under the socio-economic development committee in the management and operation of the ferry service between Tak Bai in Narathiwat, and Pengkalan Kubo in Malaysia; the lighthouse and transit mark at Tak Bai. The memorandum of understanding on this is constantly being reviewed in order to provide better services. Social programs for 1993 have also been agreed upon to enhance people-to-people interaction in the border areas with renewed vigor. The meeting also noted with satisfaction the successes achieved by naval and air exercises and operations. They have not only contributed to the maintenance of security for land and sea border areas, but also to the professionalism of security forces of both countries. As directed, the preparations have been progressing very well. A battalion-level command post execise is being planned for the end of 1993. The General Border Committee Meeting was conducted in a very cordial atmosphere in the spirit of goodwill and friendship which has been nurtured over many years. The committee agreed to hold its 38th meeting in Thailand in early 1994.

Leading the Malaysian delegation to this 37th meeting was Datuk Sri Mohamed Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak, minister of defense of Malaysia.

Parliament To Convene 24 Feb To Debate Budget

BK0902132493 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 9 Feb 93

[Excerpt] The cabinet meeting today decided to convene a special session of parliament from 24 February to consider the 1993 draft budget bill in the second and third readings. Prime Minister Chuan Likphai informed newsmen that he would allow debate to be as long as seven days. [passage omitted]

Cable TV To Be Upgraded, Fees Lowered

BK1102042993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Feb 93 p 17

[Text] Siam Broadcasting Co, which operates Thai Sky cable television, has brought in Watthachak Co and Media Plus Co to manage programmes.

Programme improvements are promised and membership fees are to be lowered with the aim of increasing the number of members tenfold, to reach 100,000 by the year-end.

After the management shake-up at Siam Broadcasting resulting from share swaps involving Watthachak and Media Plus, the problems at Thai Sky TV have been dealt with and the firm is ready to gear up, according to Khiri Kanchanaphat, the chairman.

More than 120 million baht will be invested in the news section and over 400 staff recruited. New technology will be brought in to produce up-to-the-minute news, including live broadcasting via mobile satellite units which will help rid the station of transmission frequency overlaps.

There will be over 90 percent picture clarity, according to Chaiyong Nanthasutna, deputy managing director of Siam Broadcasting and one of the vice-managing directors of Watthachak, which was taken on to revive Thai Sky.

Established in July 1990, Thai Sky has suffered accumulated losses of more than 100 million baht due to a paucity of viewers. This is partly due to the overlapping of cable TV frequencies which enable International Broadcasting Co subscribers to receive Thai Sky as well.

Under the new operation, the number of viewers is projected at over 100,000 by the end of this year, up from not more than 10,000 now.

Fees for members will be lowered to attract a wider range of viewers.

Under the new structure, two channels will be added to the existing three. One will be for entertainment programmes produced by Media Plus, which also plans a production house. The other will be for foreign films.

Some 75 percent of the programmes will be Thai-produced.

Mr Khiri says he cannot yet say which channel will offer 24-hour news.

Vietnam

Mitterrand Visit 'Warmly Welcomed'

BK1102154793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] At the invitation of President Le Duc Anh, the president of the Republic of France, Francois Mitterrand, paid an official friendship to Vietnam from 9 to 11 February 1993.

While in Vietnam, President Francois Mitterrand was received by Mr. Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam; met with ex-Prime Minister Pham Van Dong; and held talks with a Vietnamese state and government delegation led by President Le Duc Anh. Prime Minsiter Vo Van Kiet attended the talks.

Our leaders warmly welcomed the visit of President Francois Mitterrand, emphasized the significance of the first-ever visit to Vietnam by the head of the French state, and affirmed Vietnam's policy of being ready to develop long-lasting and comprehensive relations with France on the basis of equality, mutual respect, and mutual benefit.

President Francois Mitterrand expressed his joy over having the honor of visiting Vietnam. He thanked our state and government for their grand welcome, expressed his admiration for our people's struggle for independence and freedom, highly valued the results of the renovation undertaking of our state and people and their wide-open foreign policy, and affirmed that France would continue to provide support and assistance to Vietnam in its economic development, in its relations with the European Community, and in its efforts to normalize relations with international financial and monetary organizations. He clearly pointed out the firm stance of France to demand an early end to the embargo against Vietnam.

The two sides exchanged views on ways and measures aimed at bringing the relations between the two countries to a new stage in the interest of the two peoples and of peace, stability, cooperation, and development in the region.

The French president announced that France would double its 1993 aid for Vietnam. The two sides signed the following agreements on cooperation:

—An agreement between the two governments on public health and medicine.
—An agreement between the Vietnamese Ministry of Public Health and the French Ministry of Public Health and Humanitarian Actions on the renovation of Children's Hospital No. 2.
—An agreement between the two governments on legal and judicial cooperation.
—An agreement between the two governments on the establishment of the Vietnamese-French House of Law in Hanoi.
—An agreement between the two government on the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of tax evasion and tax fraud with regard to those taxes levied on income and property.
—An agreement between the two governments on the establishment of a representative office of the French School for Far Eastern Studies in Hanoi.
—A contract on the founding of, and a statute for, a joint venture between the Vietnam Post and Telecommunications General Corporation and the Alcatel Company of France.
—An aid-memoirs on cooperation between Vietnam Airlines and Air France.

President Francois Mitterrand also met with over 40 Vietnamese intellectuals and held a news conference to announce the results of his visit.

The French president hosted a grand banquet for President Le Duc Anh and other leaders of our state and government at the French Embassy in Hanoi at noontime on 10 February 1993.

President Francois Mitterrand visited the Temple of Culture complex, the Hoan Kiem Lake, and the historical site of Dien Bien Phu.

In Dien Bien Phu, leaders of Lai Chau Province and the local people gave a warm welcome to the president.

While in Vietnam, French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas held a working session with Foreign Minsiter Nguyen Manh Cam. Other French ministers also had working sessions with relevant Vietnamese ministers and public organs.

On the afternoon of 10 February 1993, President Francois Mitterrand and the French delegation left Hanoi for Ho Chi Minh city. He was accompanied by Head of the Presidential Office Nguyen Viet Dung and Vietnamese Ambassador to France Trinh Ngoc Thai.

In Ho Chi Minh City, President Francois Mitterrand called on the leaders of the city people's committee. President Francois Mitterrand and his entourage were warmly welcomed by Truong Tan Sang, acting chairman of the city people's committee. The delegation toured the Saigon river, the city cathedral, and the city post office.

At noon on 11 February 1993, President Francois Mitterrand and other distinguished guests left Ho Chi Minh City to travel on to Cambodia, beautifully winding up their visit to Vietnam.

Editorial Hails Visit

BK1202095193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Editorial from 12 February NHAN DAN: "New Development in the Vietnam-France in Friendship and Cooperation Relations"]

[Text] The official friendship visit to our country by French President Francois Mitterrand successfully concluded, ushering in a new developing period for Vietnamese-French friendship and cooperation. Our national leaders solemnly received President Mitterrand and this emphasizes the important meaning of the first visit by a French national leader to Vietnam. Our government affirms that in our open-door international relations, we treasure very much the friendship and cooperation with France and are ready to develop long-term and comprehensive relations with France on the basis of equality, mutual respect, and benefit.

On behalf of France, President Mitterrand expressed his fine feelings about President Ho Chi Minh and his respect to our people in the fight for national independence and freedom. He highly valued the results of the renovation undertaking and open-door foreign policy of our government and people. He affirmed that France will continue to support and help Vietnam in economic development, relations with the EC, and normalization of relations with international financial and monetary organizations. He clearly stated France's strong stance for an early lifting of the U.S. trade embargo against Vietnam.

The talks between our national leaders and the president were held a in friendly, honest, and mutually understanding atmosphere. The two sides exchanged views on the directions and measures to take regarding bilateral relations to bring them to a new stage for the benefit of the two peoples and for the interests of peace, stability, cooperation, and development in the region.

The French president announced France will double its aid to Vietnam in 1993. The two sides signed seven agreements on bilateral cooperation in the fields of posts and communications, culture, finance, jurisdiction, health care, and aviation. They also are considering other cooperation projects.

In an exchange about international and regional issues, the two sides expressed their concern over the Cambodian situation. They pledged to continue their close cooperation so the Paris Agreement on Cambodia can be strictly implemented in the interest of having a Cambodia of peace, independence, and nonalignment as well as a Cambodia which has friendship relations with all countries. This will also be a step in the interest of peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

The great result of the French president's Vietnam visit is the new developing step in Vietnamese-French relations. This is not only beneficial to the peoples of the two countries, but also has a profound and direct meaning in strengthening the trend of reconciliation and cooperation for mutual development, peace, and stability in the Southeast Asian region and the world.

We are happy with the positively developing step of the Vietnamese-French cooperation relations and we sincerely thank French President Francois Mitterrand for taking an important role to acceleratie that developing step. The result of the Vietnam-France meeting this fine spring has further consolidated our belief in a bright future for Vietnam-France friendship and cooperation relations.

Prime Minister Receives Korean Corporation Group

BK1102160193 Hanoi VNA in English 1548 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 11—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet received here this afternoon Mr. Cha Kyung Koo, president of the Lucky-Goldstar Corporation of the Republic of Korea, and his party, who are now on a working visit to Vietnam.

Dang Van Than, directorate general of post and telecomunications, was also present at the reception.

Mr. Cha Kyung Koo briefed the Vietnamese prime minister that the Lucky-Goldstar is the biggest telecommunication corporation in the Republic of Korea, which has in recent years cooperated all-sidely [as received] and effectively with the Vietnamese post service.

He said that his visit to Vietnam this time is aimed at setting up a joint venture to produce equipment with state-of-the-art technologies including the research, designing and production of future switchboards.

He also said his corporation is ready to cooperate with Vietnam in the fields of electronics, energy and chemistry and reaffirmed that Lucky-Goldstar will do everything it can to help the development of Vietnam.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet hailed the results of the cooperation between Lucky-Goldstar and the Vietnamese Post Service. He said that this cooperation is playing an important role in furthering the relations between Vietnam and the Republic of Korea.

The Prime Minister also affirmed that Vietnam has striven and is striving for a relation of cooperation, friendship, trust and mutual benefit and assistance with the Republic of Korea, not only in the field of telecommunications but also in other fields.

On the occasion of the Lucky-Goldstar president's visit, this afternoon, the directorate general of post and telecommunications inaugurated a tdx-10 long-distance switchboard which is to serve the northern part of the country. The equipment was supplied by Lucky-Goldstar which also provided technical assistance.

Indonesian Defense Minister Arrives in Hanoi

BK1102154193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] A high-ranking military delegation of the Republic of Indonesia led by General Murdani, minister of National Defense and Security, arrived in Hanoi on 11 February for an official visit to Vietnam.

On hand to welcome the Indonesian high-ranking military delegation at the SRV Ministry of National Defense were General Doan Khue, SRV minister of national defense; Lieutenant General Nguyen Thai Bang, deputy national defense minister; and many other generals and high-ranking military officials. Also attending the function were His Excellency Juana, Indonesian Ambassador to Vietnam; Colonel (Dalam Makmun), Indonesian military attache to Vietnam; and high-ranking officials of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry.

After the official welcoming ceremony, Gen. Doan Khue cordially received Gen. Murdani and his entourage.

On the afternoon of the same day, a Vietnamese high-ranking military delegation led by Gen. Doan Khua held talks with the Indonesian high-ranking military delegation led by Gen. Murdani. Gen. Doan Khue extended his warm welcome to the Indonesian military delegation. He said that this visit will help strengthen further the existing friendship and solidarity between the peoples and Armies of the two countries. He wished the Indonesian military delegation an outstandingly successful visit.

Gen. Murdani sincerely thanked Gen. Doan Khue, other generals, and officials of the Vietnam People's Army [VPA] for their warm welcome and hospitality extended to the Indonesian delegation. Gen. Murdani expressed the hope that his visit to Vietnam this time will help to develop further the relations of friendship between the two peoples, nations, and Armies.

The two sides briefed each other on the situation in their respective nations. Both sides noted the present complex situations in the region and the world. However, thanks to the common aspiration for peace, stability, and development, the two peoples and armies of Vietnam and Indonesia have restored and developed their friendship and solidarity, thereby being able to help each other to improve the socioeconomic and cultural development programs in their respective nations.

Gen. Murdani expressed his admiration on the VPA's efforts to maintain its glorious tradition and said that he is very proud to have friends in the VPA. Gen. Murdani asserted that Indonesia will strengthen its relations with Vietnam and will, together with Vietnam, contribute more efforts to ensure peace and stability in the region.

The Indonesian high-ranking military delegation led by Gen. Murdani also paid a courtesy call on SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam.

In the evening of 11 February, Gen. Doan Khua hosted a banquet in honor of the visiting Indonesian military high-ranking delegation. The artistic troupe of the VPA General Political Department performed a classical dance to welcome the Indonesian delegation.

Iranian Ambassador Gives Reception 10 Feb

BK1002150793 Hanoi VNA in English 1430 GMT 10 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb.10—Iranian Ambassador Reza Hoseyn Mirza Taheri gave a reception here this evening on the occasion of the 14th national day of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

His guests included Minister of Water Resources Nguyen Canh Dinh and many other ranking officials.

The Iranian diplomat and the Vietnamese minister raised toasts to the further consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries and greater successes of the two peoples in national construction.

Vatican Delegation Holds Talks With Leaders

BK1202144593 Hanoi VNA in English 1429 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 12—A delegation of the Vatican led by Monsignor Claudio Celli, deputy foreign minister, visited Vietnam from Feb. 1-7.

It had working session with a Vietnamese delegation led by Vu Quang, head of the government's committee for religious affairs. The two sides discussed issues of the Vietnamese Christian Church, and other matters of mutual concern in an atmosphere of goodwill, mutual respect and understanding. They noted as positive the results obtain during the working session.

While here, the delegation was received by Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong and Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien. It also visited the Hanoi Cathedral, the Hanoi Seminary, the Vinh Cathedral, the Vinh-Thanh Seminary in the central province of Nghe An, and the Hung Hoa Cathedral in Ha Tay Province, and other places.

Trade Minister: Ban on 17 Imported Goods Lifted

BK1102163893 Hong Kong AFP in English 1021 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi, Feb 11 (AFP)—Vietnam has lifted a five-month-old ban on the import of 17 types of goods after adjusting import duties, Trade Minister Le Van Triet was quoted Thursday as saying.

The government decided to lift the ban because domestic production had recovered and the fight against the evasion of import duties had been relatively successful, Triet was quoted by the state-controlled TRUOI TRE daily as saying.

The ban on 17 types of goods ranging from textiles and televisions to beer and bicycles was imposed in September and eased twice before what a trade ministry official called its "de-facto abolition" last week.

China—the principal country targetted by the ban—had retaliated by banning the import of some 20 types of Vietnamese goods.

Triet said his ministry now only prohibits the import of sugar, second-hand radio and television sets and used clothing from Thailand—popularly referred to as "AIDS clothes" because of the high incidence of Aquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome in Thailand.

Materials for cigarette manufacturing will be subject to import quotas. Export and import duties have been adjusted, the newspaper said, without giving details.

Triet said he hoped that Vietnamese manufacturers would not abandon the domestic market in the face of foreign competition.

"We should not let foreigners freely exploit our market," Truoi Tre quoted the minister as telling a press conference in Ho Chi Minh City.

Vo Van Kiet Meets With City's Intellectuals

BK1102134193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 8 Feb 93

[Text] On 5 February, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet held a cordial meeting with intellectuals in Ho Chi Minh City. At the function, Professor Tran Manh Tri, dean of the Sciences Faculty of the City University, on behalf of the intelligentsia, expressed the intellectuals' confidence in the party and government leadership. He also welcomed the results achieved in the renovation undertaking, which had been set and led by the party.

Afterward, a number of scientists expressed their views on measures to reorganize scientific research units and improve the environment. They also asserted the scientists' capability and willingness to participate in state tasks and called on the party and government to make optimum use of the intellectuals.

These ideas will effectively help the government to make correct decisions on programs to strengthen production, improve economic-technological activities, promote scientific research, enhance the people's physical fitness, and so forth.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet wished the intellectuals a happy New Year and commended them for their concrete contributions to the socioeconomic development programs. He stressed that the party and government always welcome contributions made by the intellectuals in various aspects so as to help make the people prosperous, the country powerful, and the society advanced.

Tran Duc Luong Visits Tan Son Nhut Airport

BK1102101193 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 7 Feb 93

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong recently made a tour of some construction projects at Tan Son Nhut airport. Accompanying the deputy prime minister were Comrade Bui Danh Luu, minister of communications and transportation, and the comrades representing the Council of Ministers Office, the Ministry of Construction, and the Ministry of Communications and Transportation.

Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong inspected runway K-25, which is currently under construction. He was briefed on the pace of construction and the results of the tasks of managing, supervising, and inspecting the construction of various important parts of the project by Comrade Tran Minh Chau, director of the international airport and head of the project management committee, and Comrade Dang Duc Tan, holder of a master degree and director of the communication design institute. According to the two comrades, the construction of all the important parts of the runway has met the authorized requirements.

Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong also visited other installations of the airport.

In 1992, Tan Son Nhut airport drew a revenue of $3 million, a four-fold increase over 1991. In 1993, the airport is expected to earn $4 to 5 million.

Pham The Duyet Attends Seminar on Hanoi Planning

BK1102150393 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 7 Feb 93

[Text] On 6 February the Hanoi College of Architecture held a seminar on urban planning and development for the capital of Hanoi, with the participation of the College of Construction, the College of Communications, and the College of Water Conservancy.

Comrade Pham The Duyet, secretary of the Hanoi municipal party committee, also attended the seminar, where he heard the views contributed by various scientists to the capital's urban planning and development.

Based on a study of the actual situation in the capital of Hanoi in recent years, especially at a time when the country is gradually switching to a market-oriented economy, traffic and the construction of technical, infrastructure, and housing projects and office buildings are problems that must be solved immediately. These problems, however, must be solved in a way that does not hinder long-term development.

Various professors, associate professors, and those holding Ph.D. and Master degrees presented to Comrade Pham The Duyet their views concerning plans for uniformly building technical and infrastructure projects in each area to enhance the value of land use, especially in areas that call for foreign investment.

It is necessary to formally inform the people of the urban development plans while modifying various policies and laws to ensure that they are in line with these plans so as to limit disorder in construction as at present.

The participants suggested that coordination be achieved among various colleges and responsible organs at the central level in Hanoi, saying that only in this way can favorable conditions be created for the planning and development of the capital—the center of the entire country.

Nguyen Khanh Visits Mekong Corporation Auto Plant

BK1102134393 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 7 Feb 93

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh recently visited the Mekong auto plant of the Mekong Corporation in Ho Chi Minh city. He was accompanied by Comrade Tran Lung, minister of heavy industry.

The leaders of the plant briefed the deputy prime minister on the results of its production and business activities last year.

The Mekong auto plant has an annual output of 5,000 vehicles, including four main types such as the Mekong multipurpose 4-wheel drive truck, the Mekong Star truck, the Mekong Z truck, and the Mekong 1-ton capacity truck. All these four types of trucks can be changed into multipurpose vehicles.

Despite numerous difficulties, thanks to its efforts, last year the plant drew a revenue of over 23 billion dong and turned in to the state more than 5.5 billion dong in import taxes and 253 million dong in income taxes. The average wage for each worker is 700,000 dong per month. Early this year, the plant exported 10 Mekong trucks to Japan for use as samples.

Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh was interested in a new type of ambulance car built recently by the plant at the request of various hospitals.

The deputy prime minister expressed the hope that in this joint venture, the plant will bring into full play its existing potential with the aim of accelerating the production of its trucks, saying that this is a highly essential demand of the country's economy at present. He added:

In so doing, the plant can open the possibilities of training a contingent of skilled workers capable of handling modern technical equipment to help produce trucks for the plant itself in particular and the country's heavy industry in general.

Phan Van Khai Visits Danang City, Discusses Tasks

BK1102141793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 8 Feb 93

[Text] In Quang Nam-Danang province, the Danang City People's Council held a conference recently to discuss the city socioeconomic orientations and tasks for 1993.

In 1993, the city planned to attain a gross industrial and handicraft production output valued at 141.7 billion dong or 8.4 percent more than the previous year. Maritime product output will be 14,000 tonnes; total revenue collection will be 121.7 billion dong or five percent more than last year; export value will be $5.3 million or 45 percent over 1992; while the population growth will be reduced to 0.06 percent.

Cadres and people of Danang City were elated to welcome Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai who visited the city during Tet. He reminded them of the city's position and role as a business and trade center, and that they should strive to bring the city's great potentials in tourism and industry into full play in the immediate future and on a long-term basis.

Catholic Conference Held in Hanoi

BK1202070593 Hanoi VNA in English 0627 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 12—The motto "Live by the Gospel in National Concord" was reaffirmed at the third plenary conference of the Committee for Solidarity of Vietnamese Catholics in Hanoi from February 9-11. Reverend Phan Khac Tu, general secretary of the committee, delivered a report on the committee's activities and on the campaign of patriotic deeds among catholics throughout the country. He said that the catholic community has actively helped in building a new, democratic life by contributing opinions to the draft constitution, taking part in the national assembly elections, and carrying out the state policies, especially the policies regarding the freedom of belief.

The title "advanced diocese" and "advanced parish" has been conferred on the catholic communities in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and the provinces of Dong Nai, Ha Tinh, Nam Ha, Kien Giang, Can Tho and Dong Thap.

The conference adopted a plan of action for 1993 which calls for promotion of the patriotic movement among catholics in the implementation of socio-economic tasks. The conference also launched a charity movement among catholics nationwide.

1993 Social Action Program Discussed in Hanoi

BK1102153393 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 11 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 11—Representatives from the Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs Services of 26 northern cities and provinces met here on Feb. 9-10 to discuss measures to enact programme of social action for 1993.

They agreed that this year, social work should concentrate on the most urgent problems such as employment, wages and salaries, social policy-based subsidies, the care for meritorious families and individuals, social insurance, famine and proverty, and social evils.

The conference was chaired by Minister of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs Tran Dinh Hoan.

In this connection, the government has issued two resolutions on fighting against drug addiction and prostitution.

A similar conference is scheduled for the southern provinces in Ho Chi Minh City on Feb. 16-17.